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Business Trends

Red China and Japan

Manpower Supply

Salmon Fishery Problems

Premier Kishi Goes to Washington

Swelling Local Government Finance

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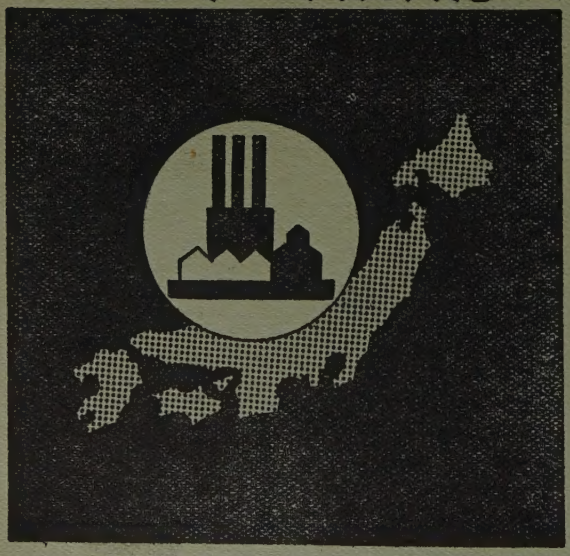

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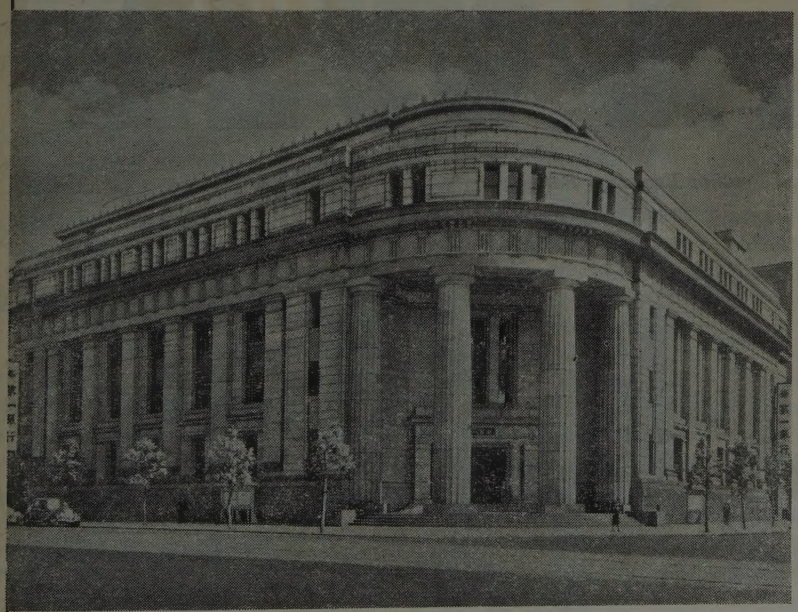

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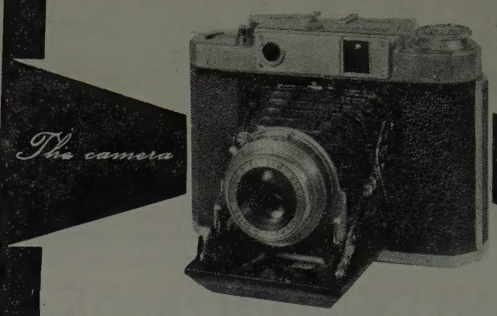

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Review of the Month

THE 26th ordinary session of the National Diet appears bound for the schedule ending on May 18. The proceedings at the current Diet session since the approval of the fiscal 1957–58 budget on March 31 have been discouragingly lethargic. This may be quite natural as the public attention, no longer focussed on the parliamentary tug-of-war, has been pivoted on the trends of the political situation to evolve after the adjournment of the Diet session and particularly in the wake of the scheduled visit of Prime Minister Nobusuke Kishi to Washington, the inevitable Cabinet reshuffle, the new policies of the reorganized Kishi Government, the revamping of the Administration Liberal-Democratic Party executive, and the possible dissolution of the House of Representatives.

"POST-DIET" POLITICS

The current session of the Diet got into action on December 20, last year. With the fiscal 1957 budget plan submitted to the session on February 1, by the Ishibashi Cabinet then in power, Prime Minister Ishibashi got ill when parliamentary debates were still in swing. The Kishi Cabinet, replacing the Ishibashi Cabinet, faced the Diet session with the same Cabinet lineup and the same budgetary plan taken over intact from the outgoing regime. With no revisions made, the budgetary plan made smooth sledding in Diet debates (except a short vacuum of one week in the process of the Premiership shifting) and was approved by both Houses on March 9 and 31, respectively. Thus, the fiscal 1957 budget totalling ¥1,137,400 million was okayed by the Diet on March 31, the last day of fiscal 1956.

For the reason that the Cabinet changed hands while the budgetary bill was still under deliberation, the smooth approval of the budgetary plan by the Diet within fiscal 1956 was generally feared difficult. The unexpected expedition with which the budgetary bill was studied and approved at the Diet is considered attributable fundamentally to the impact of Japanese public opinion which urged the early passage of the budget carrying a ¥100,000 million tax cut, although the fear of possible economic disruption resultant from the delay of governmental payments, loans and investments in case of the approval procrastination may be held partly contributive.

By and large, the current session of the National Diet has been strangely quiet in both Houses, a peculiar phenomenon in view of the successive rows which featured almost all postwar Diet sessions in the past. Have the Representatives and Councillors become at last conscious of the fact that the Diet is a place destined for conciliatory talks and cool discussions and not a scene reserved for free-for-all? Or has the current session lacked in important bills crucial enough to sway the balance of power between the Administration Party or the Opposition? Both may be true. As another reason for the lethargic Diet, however, the lack of sufficient fight on the part of Socialists cannot be overlooked. The Socialist Party, which had originally claimed that it

would confront the Government with its own version of the fiscal 1957 budgetary plan, withdrew the decision when its draft plan was discredited as being unrealistic. It is only natural that the Opposition, demanding the Government's resignation and yet without a practical budget plan for enforcement when in power, should not possess positive fight to attack the Administration. Also responsible for the Socialist apathy was the spring labor offensive by governmental and public workers. The Socialist Party, ideologically destined to play up the labor offensive issue in the Diet to its advantage, was compelled to take a lukewarm attitude as the spring offensive was bitterly flayed by the masses because of frequent train stoppages by the National Railway Workers Union, although the Party was unable to remain completely indifferent because of its dependence on *Sohyo* (the General Council of Japanese Trade Unions) for its existence.

With the Diet front thus quiet or rather depressed, preparations for Prime Minister Kishi's visit to the United States and Southeast Asian capitals have been steadily completed. Mr. Kishi is scheduled to make an official visit to Washington for three days starting June 19, while the dates for the visits to Southeast Asian countries, not as yet settled, will most possibly be set during the three weeks from May 20. In the opinion of the majority of Japanese, primary problems pending closer scrutiny between Japan and the United States at present include above all the revision of the U.S.-Japan Administrative Agreement, the strengthening of Japan's defense, the return of the administrative rights in Okinawa and Ogasawara, the easing of CHINCOM regulations and economic development of Southeast Asia. Prime Minister Kishi, on his part, insists that he is proceeding to the United States solely for talking over the basic way of thinking about the problems between the two countries and not for making concrete negotiations over individual issues. Hence, he states, no tangible results may be expected. It is quite essential to have American leaders understand what Japan is thinking. Still more important, however, is to get the United States to translate its understanding into practice, as the mere knowledge of the Japanese conception gets to nowhere. With its real objective thus left vague and intangible, Mr. Kishi's visit to Washington is reportedly criticized as pursuing the ends for home consumption. Whatever the intentions of the Prime Minister, the political situation appears to start evolving pending Mr. Kishi's call on U.S. leaders.

BUSINESS TRENDS

APRIL 1 marked the start of the fiscal 1957 budget approved at the current Diet session. The budget for the current fiscal year was compiled on the basis of three preconditions—the continuance of a world business boom, the harmonious balance of Japan's international accounts and the stabilization of prices. It appears, however, that some unwelcome changes have begun to mark these basic prerequisites. The world business boom has begun signs of coming to a standstill, the balance of the nation's international accounts has slipped into the red and the prices have been tending upward. Despite the apparent optimism on the part of the Government, therefore, financial circles have naturally begun to grow increasingly alert as these new developments have been steadily taking shape.

Nikkeiren (Japan Federation of Employers Association), one of the representative management bodies, warned against recent international economic transitions, although the Japanese economy has continued to fare well. It pointed out that Japan's balance of international accounts has begun to worsen due to the standstill of export trade resulting from intensified competition on the world market and the swelling of imports. It particularly stressed that the world is entering an era of international competition for the supremacy of technical renovation based on capital accumulation and productivity expansion. *Keizai Doyukai* (Business Managers Association of Japan) passed a verdict on the status quo of the national economy by declaring: "While economic activities (in Japan) have continued extremely energetic on the one hand, there are on the other growing signs of various bottlenecks expanding in both production and currency phases in the wake of such swift economic upspirals. With the present state left unmolested, the national economy is bound to be sandwiched between the threats of inflation and deflation and its stabilized progress will be markedly hampered."

It is generally opined that business in its present stage is dually pregnant with inflationary factors and deflationary elements. More concretely speaking, the Japanese economy today stands under the double impact of undersupply and overproduction, as well indicated by the movements of key commodity prices with machinery and steel ships surging up sharply and textiles and fertilizers subject to successive slips. With Japanese business credited with a phenomenal boom in history, many textile wholesalers have gone bankrupt in rapid succession since the turn of the year chiefly because of the poor sales of spring items and tight money. As such deflationary phenomena have become increasingly apparent, cries against the excesses of the current boom have grown steadily stronger in the absence of any unfailing guarantee against the spread over a wider area of a reactionary setback now marking textile business.

A sound business boom demands three major props —larger production, stabilized prices and the favorable balance of international accounts. This three prerequisites came in support of the boom in 1955 through 1956. The tables have been turned in recent months with the prices gradually tending upward and the international balance beginning to become adverse, although production alone has continued at a high level, much to the worry of financial circles. The only panacea to the situation is promotion of exports. To turn the international balance into the black is the shortest cut to Japan's economic stabilization through curbing inflation and ending tight money. Whether Japan may well boost her exports without difficulty, however, is highly problematic as the reopening of the Suez Canal and the continued activation of domestic demand are bound to offer two formidable hurdles extremely hard to clear without the adoption of some positive export promotion measures.

THE Government and trade unions have still been bitterly pitted against each other over the formula

for winding up strikes carried out by governmental and public workers as part of *Sohyo*-sponsored spring labor offensive. The two parties are divided on two major issues—the enforcement of the pay-raise recommendation by the Public Corporation and Government Enterprise Labor Relation Commission and the punishment of unionists directly responsible for strikes. The Government on April 19 approved a special appropriation (totalling ¥19,000 million) necessary for the uniform ¥1,200 raise in basic wages for three public corporations and five governmental enterprises provided for under the mediation plan. With some of these eight organizations found to have already raised the wages of their employees through the incorporation of the so-called "blackmarket" allowances into regular wages, however, the Government later has decided to deduct such "behind-the-scenes" pays from the proposed wage hikes according to two schedules (the first "blackmarket" allowance to be subtracted in toto and the second "blackmarket allowance to be deducted piecemeal over the period of coming three years). The final wage boost thus adjusted amounts to ¥320 for Government Monopoly employees, ¥410 for Telegram & Telephone Public Corporation's men, ¥420 for National Railways personnel, ¥958 for employees of the Mint, ¥1,008 for alcoholic enterprises, ¥1,024 for printing services, ¥1,120 for postal services and ¥1,177 for forestry services.

SPRING OFFENSIVE AFTERMATH

The so-called first "blackmarket" allowance means business bonuses for employees of public corporations which were incorporated into wages proper without sanction of the Finance Ministry. Such business bonuses are generally given out of surpluses in the budgets of public corporations made available through the elevation of working efficiency and should hence come as lump sums. In the case of the three public corporations, however, such "surpluses" for lump allowances have been used for raising wage bases (averaging ¥600 per worker) since last October. The second "blackmarket" allowance means the difference between the unit budgetary appropriation (the per-worker wage appropriated in the formal budget) and the actual unit wage (the actual amount of wage paid per worker) arising inevitably from the need of manipulating the fixed budget appropriation to cope with the changes in the number of the budget-fixed personnel. Such changes are unavoidable due to vacancies and long absences. Such wage manipulations, apparently difficult are possible for public corporations for two reasons: 1) public corporations, being business enterprises, are given greater freedom in budgetary and wage manipulations as compared with administrative offices; 2) with charges for their services and commodities (such as transportation, tobacco and telephone) legally fixed and their revenue and expense budgets controlled by the Ministry of Finance, such corporations, unlike private establishments, are unable to rationally cut or increase personnel expenses in conformity with business results. This situation leads to the advent of the so-called "avec labor struggle" formula in which the management and labor of public corporations, acting in concert or by "tacit" understanding, try to boost "blackmarket" pays.

Labor unions, dissatisfied with the Government's formula for the enforcement of the pay-raise recommendation by P.C.G.E.L.R.C., carried out protest rallies on April 25 and 26. Putting aside the problem of justifiability of this union policy, however, successive strikes arbitrarily launched by trade unions are certainly more than the masses can bear, particularly as the situation threatens to become worse by another round of strikes protesting to the punishments of unionists responsible for the spring offensive is in store. The Government, which declared its readiness to take disciplinary measures against leading unionists in the offensive, has not as yet announced the concrete program. In the spring offensive, strikes were pushed while the wage demand was still under study by the Public Corporation and Government Enterprise Arbitration Commission. Latest behaviors of trade unions lead us to consider that they are taking it for granted that recourse to force solve any problems in their favor. And it appears that they have been led to this absurd conclusion simply because force overwhelmed reason in their past ventures. Punishments so far directed against union leaders were only lukewarm and makeshift. Such stopgap practices of the Government will only result in the repetition of irrational recourse to force by unions. While the Government apparently believes that it can take a decisive action against union leaders this time on the strength of public indignation to the surprise strike by National Railway workers, it should be noted that public anger will also be directed against the Government. If the Government is really determined to take an effective disciplinary measure, it is called upon to drive home to the public the basic mission of public utilities, the right way of the labor movement and counter-measures to be taken by the Government against strikes. Otherwise, the Government will be compelled to stop any disciplinary measures halfway.

Two events destined to have a close bearing upon the relations between Japan and Communist China took place in these few weeks—President Eisenhower's comment on the alleviation of restrictions over Sino-Japanese trade and the visit of Japanese Socialist leaders to Peking. According to foreign dispatches received here, the United States is reported ready to dwarf the number of trade items on the CHINCOM list and to strengthen the ban on exports to the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, apparently in an attempt to reduce the gap between COCOM and CHINCOM restrictions. In the opinion of some circles, therefore, no easing of the present restrictions over trade with the Communist bloc as a whole will be likely. Japan, on her part, is encouraged by the news to expect larger trade with Communist China to come in the near future.

RED CHINA & JAPAN

The most noteworthy point in the Peking talks between leaders of Communist China and the visiting Japanese Socialist delegation was the Chinese conception relative to diplomatic resumption between the two countries. Unlike Japanese Socialists, Peking executives are not particularly hasty and impatient for Sino-Japanese rapprochement. They were reported to opine that Nationalist China and Japan have mutually close relations with the United States and hence the problem of diplomatic resumption should be settled on a global scale. Under the circumstances, it would be advisable for Tokyo and Peking to revive intercourses first in more easily approachable phases such as trade, cultural and technical interchanges, at least until the international situation takes turns favorable enough to endorse more positive intercourses, according to Peking leaders.

This shows that even Communist China, in a rare flash of realistic thinking, takes into consideration the special relations between the United States and Japan when it approaches the resumption of diplomatic ties with Japan.

To us, any diplomatic talks without due attention to the U.S.-Japan ties are so much unrealistic nonsense.

Business Indicators

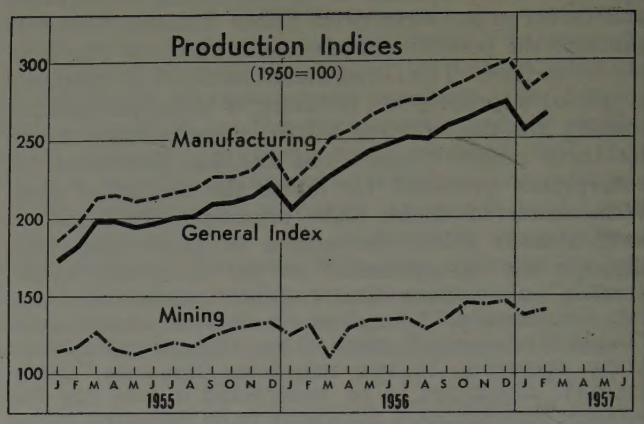
Production :—Production was up in February with the composite average index for mining and manufacturing standing at 266.0 (1950 equals 100), 3.7% higher than the January equivalent. Manufacturing alone soared to 291.9, up 3.9% over January's 281.0 In the manufacturing group, gains were particularly sizable for daily necessities and tobacco (both up over 10.0%) while machinery, rubber goods, leather goods, ceramics and textiles also registered comfortable hikes. Because of power supply shortages, however, the branches depending much on electricity such as chemical fertilizers, non-ferrous metals, iron-steel, and petroleum and coal products receded somewhat. Equally down were spun rayon and some synthetic fibre items already overproduced. The February production index also marked an increase of 22.5% (manufacturing alone up 24.3%) over a year ago. Of all items, steel ships made the most notable gain of 85.4% as compared with a year before and railway rolling stock and machinery also rose around 50%.

1. FEBRUARY PRODUCTION INDICES
(1950=100)

	Jan., 1957	Feb., 1957	Against Jan., 1957	Against Feb., 1956
Mining-Manufacturing	256.5	266.0	103.7	122.5
Mining	137.7	140.1	101.8	106.6
Manufacturing	281.0	291,9	103.9	124.3
Iron & Steel	247.6	246.2	99.4	118.7
Non-Ferrous Metals	210.9	214.9	101.9	120.0
Machinery	314.7	340.7	108.3	147.4
Steel Ships	762.2	762.2	100.0	185.4
Rolling Stocks	146.4	150.0	102.5	156.6
Textiles	316.5	331.0	104.6	122.2
Paper & Pulp	299.3	301.7	100.8	116.1
Chemicals	255.9	255.8	100.0	122.1
Pharmaceuticals	685.9	685.9	100.0	78.8
Oil Products	558.4	549.2	98.4	118.5
Ceramics	225.3	237.9	105.6	124.4
Rubber Goods	191.0	204.8	107.2	131.3
Leather Goods	265.3	280.4	105.7	112.8
Daily Necessaries	215.7	237 8	110.2	112.9
Lumber	175.7	175.7	100.0	117.8
Foodstuffs	204.8	204.1	99.7	107.6
Tobacco	126.2	139.2	110.3	96.2

Source: MITI.

Consumer Demand :—Production thus fared continuously under the support of active demand. For instance, new orders received for machinery during calendar 1956 totalled ¥58,800 million, eclipsing the like receipts in 1955 by 90.0%. A rush of orders for machinery started from the first quarter of fiscal 1956 (April to June) when contracts reached 2.3 fold the equivalent deals in the like quarter a year ago. Production of machinery and accessory items sharply leaped as a result, and eventually spurred gains in the outputs of iron-steel and non-ferrous metals. It is noted, however, that the increasing pace of new orders for machinery apparently began to slacken in the ensuing quarters, as the receipts in January this year were only less than 58.0% larger than a year



ago, chiefly because machinery production has hit the capacity ceiling. Hence, deliveries have been markedly delayed. Compared with the notable tempo at which equipment investments bulged in 1956, the march or consumer demand was rather conservative. According to the Economic Planning Board, the average consumption level (urban and suburban areas inclusive), which rose 7.4% in the July-December period in 1955 and 6.0% in the January-June period in 1956, slipped 0.1% in the July-December period, 1956. The slip of the consumption level, the most sensitive barometre of business ups and downs, came in reaction to an exceptionally sharp advance of the level in Tokyo in the second half of calendar 1955. The stiff tone of consumer prices in 1956 was also responsible for the substantial dip of the consumption level. The standstill of consumer demand is shown by department store proceeds. Department store sales in January were 18.2% larger than a year ago, but this gain was not particularly encouraging in view of the expansion of floor space and the movement of the per-salesman selling.

2. DEPARTMENT STORE SALES

	1955		1956	
	¥100 million	Indices (A year ago as 100)	¥100 million	Indices (A year ago as 100)
July	193.1	105.9	236.9	122.6
August	142.4	102.7	178.2	125.1
September	124.5	111.9	156.5	125.7
October	173.7	100.4	208.8	120.2
November	195.3	112.4	235.2	120.4
December	410.2	111.6	525.7	128.2
January	145.8	113.6	172.3	118.2

Source: Compiled by *The Oriental Economist* from MITI figures.

Inventories :—With consumer demand swelling at a normal pace but production increasing at a sharper tempo, inventories of manufactured goods have been on the upswing. Month-end stocks in the hands of manufacturers began to increase from November, 1956, and the February-end total stood 8.6% higher than a year ago for mining products and up 10.9% for manufactured items. Inventory hikes were espe-

cially marked for non-ferrous metals, textile goods and chemical products with February-end balances excelling a year ago by 23.0–27.0%. Machinery and iron-steel products also increased from 11.0% to 19.0% during the same period, but the rising tempo of inventories in these items was not as active as the increasing pace of production, as demands continued exceptionally active. Inventories of manufactured goods in the hands of merchants as of the end of February were also up over 20.0% over a year ago, well attesting to the progress of active restocking operations. Equally brisk were the gain of inventories of raw materials, indicative of bulky imports during recent months, with the February-end balance some 40.0% fatter than a year ago. Of this balance, the stocks of imported raw materials rose as much as 56.0%. With raw materials thus plentifully available, production is expected to continue the present high pitch for some time to come.

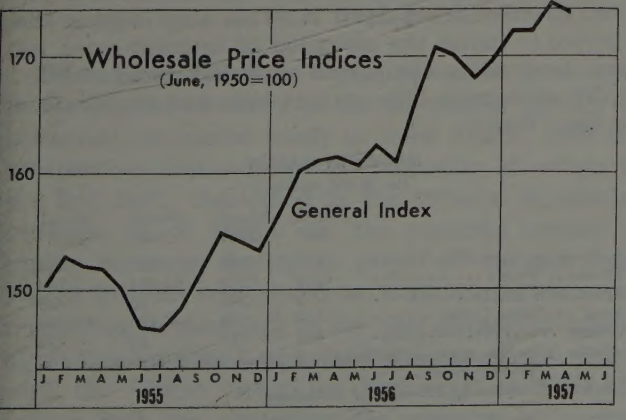
3. INDICES OF MANUFACTURERS' INVENTORIES

(1950 average=100)

	Jan., 1957	Feb., 1957	Against Jan., 1957	Against Feb., 1956
Mining-Manufacturing	143.0	144.6	101.1	108.6
Mining	50.7	51.8	102.2	72.3
Manufacturing	154.8	156.3	101.0	110.9
Iron & Steel	167.5	178.8	105.5	110.1
Non-ferrous Metals	86.3	85.1	98.6	126.8
Machinery	183.2	190.9	104.2	118.7
Textiles	121.3	128.6	106.0	123.4
Paper, Pulp	214.4	203.0	94.7	65.2
Chemical	304.8	282.6	92.7	123.8
Petroleum, Coal Products	157.3	165.9	105.5	99.8
Ceramics	121.6	124.9	102.7	96.6
Rubber Goods	191.8	188.8	98.4	96.9
Hides, Leathers	115.0	109.7	95.4	107.0
Others	99.0	105.6	105.7	146.3

Source: Ministry of International Trade & Industry.

Prices:—With inventories rising, any abrupt price hike has been apparently curbed. The prices of some key products, like textiles and metal products, have been sagging. Nevertheless, the weekly wholesale price index for the first week of April registered 174.8, the highest on the basis of June, 1950 directly preceding the Korean outbreak, principally because of the boost of railway charges which took effect as from April 1. The hike of subsidiary food items due to the advent of the spring "picnic" season and the boost of coal prices due to undersupplies resultant



from coal miners strikes were other cardinal stimulants to the march of wholesale prices. Major building materials including timber also continued strong from March into April. Thus, the April indexes of wholesale prices were 19.0% higher for building materials and 8.0–11.0% higher for metals, fuels, machinery and food items as compared with the equivalents a year ago. The hike of wholesale prices, however, is expected to mark time in the coming few months as food items are likely to slip due to the advent of the delivery season and the production of some undersupplied items will increase.

4. WHOLESALE PRICE INDICES

(June, 1950=100)

	April, 1956	Sept., 1956	April, 1957	Against Sept. 1956	Against April, 1956
Total Average	161.4	170.9	174.8	102.3	107.6
Foodstuffs	151.2	149.4	163.1	109.2	107.9
Textiles	94.3	92.1	89.6	97.3	95.0
Fuels	162.7	164.8	179.3	108.8	110.2
Metals	275.7	338.5	305.5	90.3	110.8
Machinery	182.9	188.7	199.4	105.7	109.0
Building Materials	210.5	225.0	251.3	111.7	119.4
Chemicals	105.5	106.1	109.0	102.7	103.3
Sundries	135.8	133.8	139.0	103.9	102.4
Total Average minus Foodstuffs	164.6	177.6	178.5	100.5	108.4

Note: As of mid-month.

Source: Economic Planning Board.

Living Cost:—The advance of wholesale prices mostly centered around producer goods while the prices of consumer goods remained almost unchanged up until September, 1956. This trend has been reversed since October, last year with consumer goods tending gradually upward and producer goods weakening one after another. The Tokyo consumer price index, as surveyed by the Prime Minister's Office, in February, this year, stood 2.2% higher than a year ago with the light-fuel expense taking the lead with the gain of 6.5%, followed by the housing expense (up 5.3%) and the non-staple food expense (up 3.4%). Staple food was the lone loser during the period. With the supply of food products expected to increase from now on, however, no further rise of consumer prices is considered likely in the coming few months. The slackening of the rising tempo of the housing expense is another notable feature in the movement of the living cost in recent months with the average index as of February, this year up about 5.0% over a year ago, as compared with the hike of about 10.0% in the autumn of 1956.

5. TOKYO CONSUMER PRICE INDICES

(1951=100)

	Jan., 1957	Feb., 1957	Against Jan., 1957	Against Feb., 1956
Total Average	119.8	119.4	99.7	102.2
Foodstuffs	114.7	114.4	99.7	102.1
Staple	120.9	121.1	100.2	99.9
Non-staple	111.4	110.9	99.6	103.4
Clothing	82.9	82.7	99.8	101.7
Light-Fuel	150.2	148.4	98.8	106.5
Housing	145.5	145.0	99.7	105.3
Miscellaneous	142.7	142.2	99.6	101.2

Source: Bureau of Statistics, Prime Minister's Office.

Money and Banking

Money in March :—The money market in March, originally expected to grow extremely tight, proved comparatively quiet due to the two emergency steps taken by the Government, namely: 1) bulky buying operations with the funds from the Trust Funds Bureau; and 2) the marked alleviation of the scope of high money rate applications by the Bank of Japan. The financial funds in March registered a withdrawal excess of ¥24,600 million, some ¥2,300 million smaller than the similar excess of ¥26,900 million in the like month a year ago, chiefly because of sizable purchases of bonds and debentures from private monetary institutions by the Trust Funds Bureau. Trust Funds Bureau purchases of such bonds and debentures during March totalled ¥50,000 million in four successive buying operations (¥15,000 million on March 4, ¥15,000 million on March 15, ¥7,100 million on March 22 and ¥12,900 million on March 29). Thus, without such buying operations, the withdrawal excess of financial funds in March would have reached a huge total of ¥75,400 million. Trust Funds Bureau purchases of bonds and debentures from monetary institutions in fiscal 1956 thus amounted to the combined total of ¥70,000 million, inclusive of the ¥8,000 million buying on December 26, 1956 and the ¥12,000 million purchase on February 20, this year. The March withdrawal excess of financial funds was due to two cardinal reasons: 1) the ¥31,900 million withdrawal excess (as compared with the like excess of ¥23,000 million in March, 1956) in the general account because of the smooth collection of taxes: and 2) the withdrawal excess of ¥30,900 million (as compared with ¥11,800 million) in the foreign exchange account on the spur of active imports. Well indicative of the expansion of economic activity, however, the huge withdrawal excess did not serve to reduce the Bank of Japan note issue which increased ¥7,500 million during March with the month-end balance registering ¥666,200 million. With the withdrawal excess up and the note issue swelling, the increase of Bank of Japan loans during the month bulged ¥34,800 million to stand at the month-end total of ¥276,400 million on March 30 (March 31 being Sunday). The peak was registered on March 25 at ¥288,200 million.

Money in 1956 :—Thus, the withdrawal excess of financial funds during fiscal 1956 (ended March) totalled ¥163,400 million (inclusive of ¥70,000 million buying operations by the Trust Funds Bureau), far in excess of the original estimate of a ¥163,400 million payment excess and a striking contrast to the ¥276,600 million payment excess for fiscal 1955 due to active exports and a bumper rice crop. The balance of Bank of Japan loans during fiscal 1956 increased ¥249,000 million from ¥27,300 million at the end of fiscal 1955 (March, 1956) to ¥276,400 million as at the close of fiscal 1956 (March, 1957). Despite the sizable public-to-Treasury balance, the note issue also leaped ¥91,500 million during fiscal 1956 to the year-end balance of ¥666,200 million.

Official Rate, etc. :—Because of the bulky excess of financial fund withdrawals and the unexpectedly swift tempo of demand for funds, money continued markedly tight from the close of 1956 through the remaining months of fiscal 1956. To cope with the situation, the Bank of Japan took a series of emergency steps, effective as from March 20. They were: the elevation of the official rates, the alleviation of the scope of high rate applications and the easing of terms for qualified security objects acceptable by the Central Bank for its loans.

Through the raising of the official rates, applicable to loans and discountings by the Bank of Japan by one rin (0.1 sen per diem), the official rates were raised for commercial bill discounting to 2.1 sen, for export advance bill loans to 1.8 sen, for import bill settlement loans to 2.1 sen, for loans against government bonds, designated local bonds, corporate bonds, agricultural bills, etc. to 2.2 sen and for other secured loans to 2.3 sen. The official rate for overdraft was also boosted to 2.4 sen.

Through the alleviation of the scope of high rates applicable to loans to commercial banks in case they exceed officially-designated limits, the high rate system was greatly simplified. Under the new system, the two frames (up 2 rin for the first frame and up 4 rin for the second frame), applicable under the old system, were unified into a single frame with the overall hike of the rate by 3 rin. By the revision of the security system, the Bank of Japan revived acceptance of ordinary commercial bills for its loans to monetary institutions. It may thus be seen that the alleviation of the high-rate frames and the revival of ordinary commercial bill acceptance have enabled private monetary institutions to obtain loans from the Central Bank with greater ease. In order to avoid the general criticism that the two steps have been taken simply to ease the tight money situation, however, the Bank of Japan has also elevated the official rate by 1 rin. Bank of Japan circles opine that the three steps taken mean neither the tightening or the easing of monetary operations, and explain that the Bank is ready to change the official rate whenever necessary in the future to cope with future transitions of the monetary situation.

Interest Hike Likely :—Meanwhile, the bankers syndicate handling loans to Tokyo Electric Power (with the Mitsui Bank in charge) announced the hike of the interest rate for loans to the power corporation against registered bills by 1 rin to 2.1 rin per diem, effective from April 1. This step is generally expected to invite the elevation of interest rates for loans to trading companies against registered bills, import settlement bills, export bills and overdraft in the near future.

MONEY IN MARCH
(In ¥100 million)

	March, 1957	March, 1956	Fiscal 1956	Fiscal 1955
Increase in Note Issue	75	62	915	449
Financial Funds	△246	△269	△1,634	2,766
Short-term Bonds	1	283	35	△56
Bank of Japan Loans	348	63	2,490	△2,248
Others	△28	△15	24	△22

Notes: △ denotes decrease or withdrawal excess: others are increases or payment excess.
Source: Compiled by *The Oriental Economist.*

Stock Market

New Rally:—After a comparatively short-lived collapse in evidence from mid-February, share prices began to make a steady recovery from the middle part of March. The rally has become particularly accelerated since late March through early April. The Dow-Jones average of 225 pivotals, which began to slip from the February (12) high of ¥587.88, hit the bottom at ¥560.27 as of March 9. From then on, it was a rebounding affair in the remaining period of the month, and the April 1 average climbed to a high of ¥590.60, topping the February 12 peak, although slightly. The market then began to mark time, but the average as of April 11 still registered a high mark at ¥581.72 and the daily average for the first 11 days of the month stood at ¥586.26, a new high. The daily volume of turnovers, which was on the downgrade from February through March, also began to pick up steadily from early April and the average for the first 11 days of the month rose to 31,722,000 shares. The quick return of market animation is attributable to two new developments: 1) the parliamentary approval of the fiscal 1957 state budget which served to free traders from the unnecessary concern about the future monetary situation and enabled them to expect the alleviation of the tight-money situation and 2) the completion of evening-up operations which came reactionary to the excessive share price hike in January through early February.

1. AVERAGE SHARE PRICES AND DAILY TURNOVERS

	Share Price (Yen)			Average Daily Turnovers
	High	Low	Average	(1,000 shares)
1956: May	488.43	472.10	480.55	24,355
June	512.25	491.03	502·21	27,528
July	502.14	482.87	490.81	16,042
August	507.31	493.69	503.03	15,450
September	492.92	482.70	487.24	12,127
October	508.98	487.15	496.19	19,996
November	556.58	512.94	532.76	39,673
December	566.30	542.91	554.92	28,163
1957: January	586.01	549.45	572.80	39,771
February	587.88	562.91	573.99	30,390
March	587.00	560.27	567.73	27,692
April	590.60	581.03	586.26	81,722

High-Yield Stocks:—Other principal stimulants to the market recovery of the increasing number of industrial companies ready to boost capital and the prospective improvement of corporate showings in the first half. According to the Oriental Economist estimate as of March 15, the expected amount of capital increases during the period of one year from March 20, 1957 was placed at ¥265,100 million, corresponding to about 30% of the total amount of capital of all the industrial and business companies listed with the Tokyo Securities Exchange at ¥867,800 million and far exceeding the amount of capital expansions in the like period last year. On the other hand, corporate results have continued on the upgrade on the strength of the continued business boom with the settlements to be announced the half-year terms ended either in April or May likely to register fair profits. Under the circumstances, larger dividends by leading corporations are expected likely. In other words, more companies will be able to bear the burden of capital increase without any unfavorable effects on their business showings. With share prices tending downward from mid-February through March despite the fair prospects of corporate showings, the share yields improved markedly. As of March 15, the estimated average yield of the 225 pivotals stood at 7.7%, registering a gain of 0.4% over the like average of 7.3% as of February 13. It is noted that the general interest rates have continued stiff, well reflective of the tight-money situation, and low-yield corporate bonds (7.3-7.4%) have not been favorably subscribed to. With the average yield at 7.7%, the yields of some shares stand at higher levels. Some of the high-yielding shares as of March 15 were as follows: cotton spinning, 8.8%; chemical fibres, 8.1%; paper, 8.0%; pulp, 8.7%; electricity-gas, 7.1%, shipping, 8.3%; fisheries, 8.6%; sugar, 8.5%; breweries-edible oils, 8.4%; pharmaceuticals, 8.8%; metal mining, 8.0%; shipbuilding, 8.7%; automobile, 8.7%; and non-life insurance, 7.9%. Many of these shares are certain to continue strong and chemical fibres, electricity, shipbuilding and automobile stocks are particularly good buys.

Of the 22 industrial groups comprising the 225 pivotals, 18 forged ahead and only four registered marginal losses during the period from March 9 (when the bottom was hit) to April 11. The losers were petroleum and coal products, banking-insurance, shipping and fisheries. The fall of petroleum came in reaction to the excessive hike resulting from cornering operations directed towards oil shares by Toyo Seito while the loss of shipping was due to the imminent reopening of the Suez Canal. On the list of the 18 gainers, the "other manufacturing" group (sawing, printing, musical instruments inclusive) topped with the hike of 15.49%, followed by electric machines and tools with 10.67% glass, clay and stone products with 10.61%, machinery with 10.37% and precision machines with 8.43%. Service professions (including films) and chemicals also registered gains exceeding the overall average of 3.73%.

Caution:—Opinion is divided on the latest recovery of the stock market. Some circles take a bullish view that the Dow-Jones average may well continue to boost to the ¥600 mark while other quarters remain extremely bearish, warning against another round of reactionary slips at any time. The

latter group holds that the monetary situation, after a sporadic turn for the better in April, is likely to grow tighter and that some key products, particularly textiles, will become oversupplied with the resultant worsening of business showings. They further opine that general conditions are not necessarily and unconditionally favorable, as the domestic economy as well as the world business may come to a halt. Such a conservative view is generally prevalent among financial circles including life insurance firms. Many of life insurance companies have apparently bought shares to the limit of legal restrictions and are seemingly ready to take the sellers' side.

The increasing hesitancy on the part of life insurance companies to hold bulky stocks is apparently due to the reported Government's intention to tighten restrictions on limits of share holdings by life insurance firms with the object of further stabilizing their financial standings. In view of the fact that the volume of stocks held by life insurance companies at present accounts for more than 10% of the total amount of stock issues, the prospective "restrictive" step to be taken by the Government is expected to have far-reaching repercussions on the securities market in general. Under the existing insurance business law, insurance companies are not allowed to hold securities exceeding 30% in value of the amounts of their respective assets, although the percentage may be boosted to the average of 35% for life insurance firms and 41.25% for non-life insurance firms, subject to the approval by the Minister of Finance. The Government is expected to confine the possessions to 30% for life insurance firms and 35% for non-life insurance firms at the maximum.

2. SHARE PRICE MOVEMENT BY GROUP

	Feb. 12 (Yen)	Mar. 11 (Yen)	Gains (Yen)	%
Average of 225 Pivotals	560.77	581.72	20.95	3.73
Fisheries	164.66	163.16	(↔) 1.50	0.91
Mining	367.94	410.56	12.64	3.17
Foodstuffs	997.00	1,030.00	33.00	3.30
Textiles	569.14	575.94	6.80	1.19
Paper, Pulp	698.44	723.96	25.52	3.65
Chemicals	350.06	365.72	15.66	4.47
Petroleum, Coal Products	1,530.00	1,520.00	(↔)10.00	0.65
Glass, Clay, Stone Products	837.88	926.84	88.96	10.61
Primary Metals	199.71	205.56	5.85	2.93
Machinery	303.37	334.83	31.46	10,37
Electric Machines, Tools	323.06	341.03	37.66	11.67
Transportation Machinery	322 20	327.68	5.48	1.70
Precision Machines	294 41	319.25	24.84	8.43
Other Manufacturing	420.11	485.19	65.08	15.49
Commerce	1,135.71	1,175.00	39.29	3.54
Banking, Insurance	631.29	613.61	(↔)17.68	2.80
Real Estate	1,542.62	1,585.25	42.63	2.76
Land Transportation	364.81	365.25	0.44	0.12
Ocean Shipping	290.94	284.15	(↔) 6.79	2.33
Warehousing	912.50	942.50	30.00	3.28
Electricity, Gas	206.51	206.91	0.40	0.19
Service Professions	323.67	339.63	15.96	4.93

Source: Compiled by *The Oriental Economist.*

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Premier Kishi Goes to Washington

THE impending visit to Washington, planned by Prime Minister Nobusuke Kishi ever since his assumption of office earlier this year, has now come to be strongly supported by the United States Government. At a press conference on April 10, President Eisenhower expressed sympathy for Japan's economic position, and made it clear that his Administration was thinking in terms of some easing of the tight restrictions on Japan's trade with communist China.

This clarification of attitude will probably go a long way toward undermining the rumor, disadvantageous to Premier Kishi, that, unlike his predecessor, Mr. Tanzan Ishibashi, who was outspokenly in favor of revival of trade with the mainland, he tends to be coldly indifferent in regard to this problem.

Nevertheless, despite this extension of a helping hand, there has been no appreciable diminution of the critical opinions voiced in connection with the Premier's forthcoming trip to America. Among these, not a few appear to be in reaction to excessive hopes; while categorical opposition for the sake of opposition is also recurrent. Typical are such comments as: "... Although the Prime Minister's visit to the United States may result in the acceptance of some of Japan's contentions, it is unlikely, considering our position of dependence, that there will be any ultimate realization of a self-assertive diplomacy...;" or, "... same as the homage paid in turn by the leaders of Western Europe."

Such views, needless to say, are unreasonable. How can it possibly be imagined that to have the highest responsible personages of the United States and Japan meet with each other for intimate discussion of the problems confronting their respective countries would go against mutual interests? Such thinking is counter to all good sense.

It may happen, as a result of the talks, that Premier Kishi finds it fitting to modify his contentions or to make some concessions. But this is what diplomatic negotiations are for. Perhaps such reasoning may not have been applicable before the war. But today, Japan's diplomacy is supported only by public opinion, both domestic and foreign; so it would be foolish to think one can have his own way regardless of circumstances.

Take, for instance, the negotiations with the Republic of Korea. Although it is reported that Japan has decided to make major concessions the talks are still deadlocked with no indication of a way out. Yet no one can deny that Korea is no match as to national resources and strength. The fishery negotiations with the U.S.S.R. also failed to yield the results looked forward to with every justification, and the outcome was far from satisfactory. It is all very well to talk about "self-assertive diplomacy," but it should be realized that the facts of life in Japan's particular case do not provide much leeway for assertiveness.

We therefore hold that Premier Kishi need not lend an ear to any of the unreasonably expectant or derogatory comments. We should, nevertheless, like to know just what the Premier has in mind for discussion with President Eisenhower. It is certainly true, as the Premier has said, that to set out on a visit with a mind to receive some present for those at home is undignified and craven. To utilize the promise of such bounty for electioneering is even more disreputable. Yet, it is clear that since the prime minister of one country is journeying forth to meet with the Chief Executive of the United States, the visit cannot be a mere courtesy call.

In all probability, there already exists in Premier Kishi's mind, though perhaps in outline only, an idea of what he intends to discuss with the President. What then are the problems and the policies for dealing with them? Unless these matters are made clear to the public, the result will be no different from that of the visit to the President made by former Prime Minister Shigeru Yoshida some time ago. It may indeed be worse, for the disappointment in Premier Kishi would certainly be greater than in the case of Mr. Yoshida.

Ever since the assumption of premiership by Mr. Ishibashi early this year, there has persisted a strong feeling that the Diet should be promptly dissolved, once it became clear, with the passing of the budget for fiscal 1957-58, there would be no undue disruption of the economy. Mr. Ishibashi himself was minded to carry out early dissolution of the Diet until illness forced him into premature retirement. The Cabinet formed by Premier Kishi, his successor, the budget plan, and the Liberal Party leadership have not undergone major changes; but even more than on Mr. Ishibashi does it devolve upon Premier Kishi, upon adjournment of the Diet, to formulate a new policy. The cries for prompt dissolution are therefore quite justifiable.

In spite of such circumstances, the Prime Minister has postponed Diet dissolution; and he is going ahead with his plan of visiting President Eisenhower. This apparently means that although the visit is scheduled to be a short one great importance is attached to the trip by the Premier. To withhold from the public the purpose of a trip of this importance is utterly unmindful of the fact that diplomacy cannot exist without good internal government. Conduct of this kind is inexcusable, and there can be no valid refutation of the accusation that Mr. Kishi's visit to Washington is solely for furthering the in-

terests of his party and himself.

According to informed quarters, Prime Minister Kishi is considerably worried about his own popularity as compared with that of his predecessors, former Prime Ministers Yoshida, Hatoyama and Ishibashi. In this connection it must be said that "popularity" in the case of politicians is generated in diverse ways, and that "popularity" as such is no true measure of statesmanship Prime Minister Tojo, while pursuing a foolhardy and relentless course toward war, went out of his way to win popular goodwill, and succeeded in doing so to some extent. This contradiction must be recognized.

Consequently, Prime Minister Kishi, in order to win true acclaim and popularity, should set about formulating policies which will strike a sympathetic chord in the hearts of the people, instead of worrying about how he should present himself to the public.

In this sense, the purpose of his forthcoming visit to Washington should not be left to conjecture. The Premier's aims should be made public, and his going should be conditional on popular approval.

Fortunately for Prime Minister Kishi, President Eisenhower has extended a welcoming hand. This chance should not be allowed to pass without action to obtain the nation's support for the Prime Minister's negotiations in Washington.

Manpower Supply

According to the Monthly Employment Statistics of the Labor Ministry, the index for regular payroll employees, as of January 1957, stood at 115.1 (1951 average=100). This level is higher by 4.8 percent than that of January 1956, and when employment by manufacturing alone is taken, the increase over January, 1956 comes to 6.8 percent. Within manufacturing the gains in employment were particularly notable in machinery and metals, these ranging from 7 to 17 percent, as shown in Table 1. This growth of employment is a truly phenomenal one, seldom seen in the past.

REGULAR PAYROLL EMPLOYEE INDICES
(1951=100)

	Jan., 1956	Jan., 1957	Comparison (%)
All Industries	109.8	115.1	104.8
Mining	75.1	75.5	100.6
Manufacturing	111.1	118.7	106.8
Foodstuffs	136.9	137.2	100.2
Tobacco	120.8	118.7	101.8
Textiles	90.5	93.8	103.7
Lumber	100.6	106.7	106.1
Paper	132.6	139.8	105.5
Printing & Publishing	135.9	140.9	103.6
Chemicals	112.7	116.7	103.6
Ceramics	115.8	124.3	107.3
Primary Metals	106.8	114.5	107.2
Metal Products	127.5	135.0	105.9
Machinery	113.9	126.9	115.5
Electric Appliances	123.5	144.6	117.1
Transaction Machinery	106.2	116.1	109.3
Precision Machinery	146.1	166.5	113.9
Wholesale & Retailing	143.8	152.5	106.1
Banking & Insurance	145.8	146.2	100.3
Transportation & Communication	109.9	112.8	102.7
Construction	128.6	127.8	99.4

Source: Ministry of Labor.

By regular payroll employees here is meant those workers under contract for periods in excess of 30 days. Workers employed for shorter periods of time had attained, as of January 1957, a level 24 percent higher than that of January 1956.

Even better results are seen from the job placements effected through the good offices of the Public Employment Stabilization Offices. As can be seen from Table 2, the average number of jobseekers during January–February stood at 1,483,000 per day, 3.8 percent below the level of the same period in 1956. Conversely, the number of vacancies went up 45.8 per cent to average 911,000 job-openings per day. Consequently, there was a logical increase in placements at 24 per cent over the level of the same period in 1956.

2. JOBS WANTED & OFFERED THROUGH EMPLOYMENT SECURITY OFFICES
(In 1,000)

	Jan.-Feb. Average, 1956	Jan.-Feb. Average, 1957	Comparison (%)
Jobs Wanted	1,542,000	1,483,000	96.2
Jobs Offered	625,000	911,000	145.8
Successful Job-seekers	247,000	307,000	124.3
Employment Ratio	16.0%	20.7%	(+)4.7

Source: Ministry of Labor.

With such improvement in the labor market, there have begun to appear in spots some shortages of manpower. This tendency is particularly strong in connection with skilled operators, so the labor shortage appears to be more acute in cities possessing industrial zones. Let us turn, for example, to Tokyo.

The daily average of the number of men jobseekers during January–February stood at 180 percent of the vacancies, but with such jobs as sheet-metal working, can-making, and power press operation the openings exceed the applicants. With other jobs requiring skill, the vacancies are perhaps slightly fewer than jobseekers; but this represents the usual mismatch of requirements and conditions.

From the recruitment side, the offers are for immediate employment because production boost requirements must be promptly met, and in the case of lathe-operators, for instance, the qualifications call for from 5 to ten years of practical experience. On the other hand, the majority of job-aspirants in this category have behind them only 3 to 4 years of experience. Also, it often happens that the ex-

perienced worker is getting on in years, while the recruiting employer is looking for energetic men in their thirties. Recently, there have actually occurred instances of applicants, unemployed it is true, refusing to accept jobs simply because they feel that with prosperity on the uptrend better jobs or better pay will shortly become available.

Such being the situation, the labor shortage appears to be considerably more acute than can be fathomed from statistical data.

This does not apply to men alone. Take for instance sewing machine operators; job openings are three times the number of applicants. With assembly workers the demand is six times the supply. In the case of women, the shortage is not confined to factory hands, and with accounting clerks there are now five vacancies for each job-applicant.

What then are the conditions in the various segments of industry? The first field that must be taken up is shipbuilding, which with its recent growth now has on hand the biggest tonnage in orders in the world. Here the labor shortage has been felt since last year, and since autumn there has been considerable competition among the shipyards to find and keep skilled workers. According to a survey made by the Japan Shipbuilding Association, covering 26 leading shipyards, the acutest shortage is felt in electrical welders. This is due, for one thing, to the technological advances which have enabled welding, in most instances, to replace rivetting. The survey indicates that by April 1957 there will be a shortage of some 1050 welders, and that by October another 850 additional welders will be needed.

Operators of heavy machine tools, crane operators, fitters, and other skilled workers are also in heavy demand; and with these the shortage runs into something like 2,000 men. As for the smaller shipyards, a Ministry of Transportation survey shows that as of December 1956 the skilled manpower shortage stood at 665 workers.

Consequently, some shipyards are openly wooing skilled workers with high pay; while there are cases of workers from one shipyard working at another during off-duty hours, giving rise to strange transmigrations.

The merchant marine, with an increase in the tonnage of bottoms in operation, is also faced with a shortage of qualified seamen. According to the Shipowners' Association there will be, by the end of fiscal 1958–59, a deficit of 1,000 in qualified ship's engineers, of 500 in navigators, of 670 in radio operators, and of 560 in ordinary seamen.

In the steel and iron industry where the second rationalization and expansion program is now under way it is expected that the newly installed capacity will go into operation in from 4 to 5 years. Since the manpower requirements resulting from this boost in capacity are rather far off in the future, there seems to be no immediate problem regarding labor supply. However, the main need is for engineers and technicians, who are essential even when only build-up is in progress. Management has upped the number of new graduates hired each year, and depending on background and qualifications recruitment appears to be encountering difficulties.

The machinery industry too, riding on the tide of investment in plant and equipment, is endeavoring to boost productive capacity. But fearful of having to cut back on employment should some slump occur, the bulk of the hiring is done on a temporary basis. Recently, however, difficulties are being met in upping workforce size, possibly because workers dislike the unstable temporary status.

In building and construction, mechanization of work has resulted in a shortage of machine operators; and here too competition is sharp for finding and keeping good skilled workers. Pay also is better by from 20 to 30 percent as compared to a year back.

The petroleum refineries and the petrochemical industry are finding it difficult to get enough highly trained engineers necessitated by automation and other technological advances.

With the textile mills, it appears that there has been a notable decrease in applicants for jobs as millhands (girls).

All in all, however, the bigger enterprises are incomparably better off than the small operations (here defined as industrial operations employing not more than 300 workers, they make up 97—98 percent, numerically, of all operational units, and represent some 60 percent of all production). The generally weaker small enterprises have tended to be backward in undertaking mechanization, so their dependence on highly skilled labor is far less than in the case of the big operations. Nevertheless, while on the one hand bigger and bigger orders must be fulfilled, the pay level is too low to expect notable induction of skilled workers, and when there are any good skilled workers employed these often fall prey to the depredations of big business. The fact remains that in Japan the disparity in pay between big business and small borders on the fantastic. According to the industrial statistics of the nations of the world, the pay levels of big business (over 1,000 employees) and small business (10 to 49 employees) do not vary excessively. In the United States and the United Kingdom, the small business level is more than 80 percent of the big. But in Japan, the small business employee gets on the average only some 40 per cent of what his counterpart working for a big enterprise receives. To make matters worse, the small business employee is subjected to far harsher working conditions including longer work-hours and less fringe benefits. Consequently, it is only natural to find the better skilled workers gravitating to the bigger employers. Although statistically it cannot be as yet said that a shortage of manpower is impending, increasing difficulty in recruiting trained engineers and experienced skilled workers is plainly in evidence.

How then is the general situation? Is there any danger of the manpower shortage becoming a general trend?

There appears to be little or no cause for worry. For one thing, most segments of industry have already taken emergency steps to counter any serious threat. The shipyards, for example, are instituting training programs to raise the proficiency of their own workforces, while recruitment starts at the high school level, with job-aspirants given job training as apprentices while they are still at school.

Another method of developing a skilled workforce are the local vocational training centers, jointly run by the Ministry of Labor, the local governments, and private business.

To ease the shortage of merchant marine personnel, steps are being taken to expand the facilities of the Nautical Universities and high schools, as well as measures to double the sizes of the classes for accelerated courses in navigation and seamanship given by the Marine Technological Institutes (under the Ministry of Transportation).

Naturally, these remedial actions may not be enough, but even the Shipbuilding Association now says that the outlook is considerably brighter than it once appeared, while the shortages, where they have appeared, are locally limited phenomena. Taken as a whole, the situation in 1956 was such that as against the number of job openings, the applicants averaged 2.6 times. Moreover, it is a widely accepted fact that there exists, in countless marginal jobs, a vast army of perhaps several million "submerged" or potential unemployed workers. Consequently, the problem for Japan rather is how to advance more toward complete, full employment. Another point that must not be lost sight of is the fact that the present boost in employment is the result of the investment boom. This is demonstrated by the higher employment in manufacturing, particularly machinery and metals. Therefore, manpower shortage, when they have occurred, have been in these fields. With a leveling off of the investment activity, it cannot possibly be expected that the demand for engineers and skilled workers will continue to grow.

Looking at the employment pattern of shipbuilding and machinery manufacturing, it is noted that for more than a year in the past, there was a doubling of temporary employees, while the regular workforce remained practically unchanged. This is because management is cautious of what may lie ahead. Actually, the investment boom has about reached its apex. Even assuming that manpower requirements continue to increase notably, it should be possible to find workers by offering permanent jobs and better pay instead of taking them on as temporary help.

Another thing that cannot be ignored is the trend toward mechanization and automation in an effort to reduce labor costs. Considerable progress is being achieved. Take the coal industry for instance, the increased production goal for fiscal 1957–58 is set at 53 million tons, 10 percent more than that of fiscal 1956–57; but at least the bigger operators are not going to increase manpower, and they are depending on mechanization and improved methods to bring about this boost in output.

Such being the situation, Japan is as yet far from such problems as utilization as manpower of the womenfolk, or retardation of the retirement age, or importation of labor from elsewhere.

3. GREATER DEMANDS FOR SKILLED WORKERS IN TOKYO
(Jan.-Feb., 1957 Average)

	Jobs Offered	Jobs Wanted
Lathe Men	1,192	1,423
Finishers	811	873
Polishers	153	160
Metal Sheet Makers	452	423
Tin Makers	116	75
Welders	226	475
Press Operators	506	447
Fitters	338	382
Electricians	261	341
Total Incl. Others	20,885	37,751

Source: Labor Section, Tokyo Metropolitan Government.

Farmland Tenure

THE shifts in the pattern of farmland ownership and tenure are of great significance from the standpoint of the farm economy since the acreage under cultivation and the mode of operation are basic factors governing farm production. Whenever there takes place growth, recession, or sharp change in farming, intensification of farmland transitions is invariably noted.

Farmland movements can be divided into two major categories: 1) changes in ownership or tenure without change in the use of the land for farming; and 2) effacement for transformation into sites for dwellings, industrial installations, and roadways. The annual acreage involved in category 1 is about 100,000 *Chobu* (*Chobu*=2.45 acres), while some 5,000 to 6,000 *Chobu* of farmland are diverted to other purposes.

According to the Farmland Law, enforced from October 1952, all changes in ownership, tenure, or

1. ACREAGES INVOLVED IN FARMLAND MOVEMENTS
(In 1,000 *Chobu*)

	Total Acreages Involved	Owner-operated Farmland Involved
1951	50.5	26.0
1952	85.4	52.4
1953	79.4	49.5
1954	102.6	68.8
1955	85.5	58.4

Source: *The Oriental Economist* for all the tables.

status of farmland are subject to the approval of the prefectural governor.

This article will deal mainly with the changes in ownership and tenure of land devoted to crop raising. These changes can be further sub-classified as: 1) sale of owner-operated farmland; 2) transfer of title, without consideration, to owner-operated farmland through inheritance or by deeding; 3) purchase of tenant-holdings by tenant-farmers; 4) leasing, by owner-operators, of farmland to tenant-farmers; 5) substitution of tenant-farmers; and 6) termination of lease to tenant-farmers, now generally known as "expropriation of tenants." (Cf. Table 2) In other words, farmland movements with no change in purpose signify shifts in the various rights pertaining to farm property.

Table 1 shows the acreages involved in the changes in ownership and tenure of land for crop-raising. It will be seen that 1952 was a peak year. This is because the changes that should have been complete in 1951 were delayed due to administrative and clerical causes.

The actual situation was that until 1950 all transactions pertaining to farmland were suspended by law while the process of "farm reform" was under way. Buying and selling of farmland began to assume significant proportions only after the decontrol of farmland prices in July 1950, and the volume of transactions grew steadily until 1954, when the peak of over 100,000 *Chobu* was recorded. In 1955, however, a decline set in, with the volume down to 85,000 *Chobu*.

Of the changes in ownership of farmland, sale has steadily grown in relative importance, the acreage involved being 38 percent of all changes in ownership or tenure in 1953, 41 percent in 1954, and 46 percent in 1955. The absolute acreage, however, has not changed significantly, remaining steady at about the 40,000 *Chobu* level.

2. ACREAGES INVOLVED IN FARMLAND OWNERSHIP AND TENURE CHANGES

(In *Chobu*)

	1953	1954	1955	1956 (1st half)
Changes In Ownership				
1) Owner-operated, sale	30,573	41,840	39,431	23,879
2) Owner-operated, non-sale	18,841	26,943	19,014	11,247
3) Tenant-operated	16,619	21,290	15,513	9,225
Leasehold Rights				
4) Granted	5,879	5,098	4,549	—
5) Transferred	3,300	2,627	2,267	—
6) Annulled	4,038	4,727	4,687	—
Total	79,350	102,524	85,461	—

Sale of owner-operated farmland is usually instigated by the owner, the main reason being need of ready cash. Consequently, the leveling-off of farmland movements in 1955 can be attributed to the good crops of that year.

How then does the situation compare with that of prewar? Table 3 gives the movement rates, obtained by comparing the acreages involved in the various changes of ownership (excluding non-sale transfers of title) and tenure.

3. FARMLAND SALES, COMPARISON WITH PREWAR

(Acreages involved, in 1,000 *Chobu*)

	Owner-Operated to Owner-Operated	Owner-Operated to Tenant-Operated	Tenant-Operated to Owner-Operated	Tenant-Operated to Tenant-Operated	Total
1933–35 Average	56	29	45	59	189
1941–42 Average	27	0	17	0	44
1953	31	0	17	0	48
1954	42	0	21	0	63
1955	39	0	16	0	54
Movement Rates					
1933–35 Average	1.8%	0.9%	1.5%	1.9%	3.2%
1954	0.9	0	4.2	0	1.2
1955	0.8	0	3.1	0	1.0

In prewar 1933–35, such sales covered as much as 3.2 percent of all farm acreage; and at this rate all of Japan's farmland would have become involved in sale in about thirty years. This high rate of turnover has declined to about one-third since the war. Moreover, it must be noted that there has been considerable change in the content of such transactions. As can be discerned in Table 3, the law now forbids the purchase of owner-operated land for the purpose of leasing to a tenant-farmer, or the purchase by one landlord from another of tenant-operated land. In prewar days, the bulk of farmland sales comprised transactions between landlords. However, even with farmland sales by owner-operators to other owner-operators, the movement rate is down to one-half prewar. Conversely, the purchase of land by tenant-farmers now stands at more than double the prewar rate.

Shifts in the pattern of farm ownership, resulting from sale of farmland, are followed closely. According to surveys conducted up to 1954, it had been noted that the tendency was for ownership to become concentrated in the middle group of proprietor-farmers. But from 1955, the tendency has been toward heavier acquisition by the upper class farm-owners.

Table 4, compiled from data obtained by the Sendai Regional Farm Affairs Bureau, shows that in 1955, as compared to the years 1951 and 1952, there was more acquisition of farmland by owner-operators with more than 1.5 *Chobu* of land under cultivation.

In the past, it had been usual for the lower class owner-operators to sell off their land for settlement of debts and for financing non-farm business ventures, and for the upper class farmers to do the same for the sake of higher efficiency and improvements in production methods. Such disposal of land enabled the purchase of motor-driven cultivators and other farm machinery for higher unit yield. But the better-off farmers from about 1955 appear to have started turning toward increase in acreage.

Table 2 shows a tendency toward increase in farmland movements. It is surmised that, following upon bumper crops and the high activity in business and industry (aiding population flow from the farms to other economic activity), there should take place appreciable changes in the pattern of farm ownership and tenure; and it may be that the trend toward

bigger scale of operations on the part of the upper class farmers has progressed more than can be judged from available figures.

Farmland movements other than that resulting from change in ownership are at a virtual standstill. However, a notable feature of 1956 is the sharp increase in annulment of leaseholds. This of course is partly due to the expiry of many minor contracts concluded just five years previously, and is by no means the result of any concerted action on the part of land-owners.

Because the annulment of leaseholds exceeds the granting of new leases to tenant-farmers, there is an annual decrease of tenant-operated acreage. The decrease in 1954 was 21,000 *Chobu*, and 15,000 *Chobu* in 1955. If tenant acreage goes on diminishing in this way, the 510,000 *Chobu* of tenant holdings which existed in 1955 will disappear in about thirty years.

4. FARMLAND MOVEMENT TREND IN FIVE PREFECTURES OF NORTHEAST JAPAN

(Owner-operated farmland sales by size of parties to transactions)

	Seller		Buyer	
	1951–52	1955	1951–52	1955
Non-cultivator	—	—	1.6%	0.1%
Less than 0.3 *Chobu*	13.6%	11.0%	4.3	1.8
0.3 to 0.5 *Chobu*	11.8	12.1	13 3	13.1
1 to 1.5 *Chobu*	22.8	23.8	27.7	24.3
1.5 to 2 *Chobu*	14.7	14.4	16.5	18.2
2 to 3 *Chobu*	10 9	12.0	8.1	12.6
3 to 5 *Chobu*	3.8	4.2	2.3	3.7
Over 5 *Chobu*	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.2
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Prices, naturally, vary from locality to locality, and from case to case; but according to studies made by the Kangyo Bank from since before the war the general trend is as indicated by Table 5. As of March 1955, the national average selling price for standard paddy-land was ¥116,000 per tan, and the climb rate has declined somewhat.

.5 RATE OF CLIMB OF PADDY-LAND PRICES

(1935=1)

	Rate of Climb	Bank of Japan Wholesale Price Indices
1951	67	331
1952	103	337
1953	146	339
1954	215	337
1955	267	331

Source: *The Oriental Economist.*

Although there was a steep rise subsequent to the decontrol effective from July 1950, the curve is at a level below those of wholesale commodity prices and urban real estate prices. Nevertheless, this rise in farmland prices is constituting a heavy burden upon the farming population.

Summing up the main points of this article, it may be said that: 1) shifts in pattern of farmland ownership and tenure are considerably less than before the war; therefore, 2) the overall structure of Japanese farming is changing at an extremely low rate; but 3) the diminution of tenant-operated acreage is progressing at fairly high speed; and 4) beginning with 1955 there has become noticeable a tendency toward bigger acquisition of farmland by the upper-class owner-operators.

Swelling Local Government Finance

THE program for local government finance for the 1957–58 fiscal year (ending March 31, 1958) calls for revenue and expenditure respectively in the amount of ¥1,147,100 million. This sum is ¥101,400 million more that in fiscal 1956–57, and is slightly more than the national Budget (General Account) figure of ¥1,137,400 million. Moreover, when it is considered that settlement of accounts at fiscal year-end normally results in deficits whereas with the national Budget surpluses are usually encountered, it can be said that in terms of real income and outgo local government finance has surpassed national government finance in size.

Take, for instance, the 1955–56 fiscal year. The national Budget was initially set at ¥1,013,300 million, and since the closing of accounts showed outgo of ¥1,018,200 there resulted a deficit of ¥5,100 million. But with local government finance, whereas the program called for ¥998,900 million in expenditure, the actual outgo came to ¥1,176,200 million to cause a huge deficit of ¥177,300 million. Consequently, for fiscal 1957–58 it can be expected that the planned outgo of ¥1,147,100 million will be exceeded by a sizable amount.

This means that local government finance has come to take up a big portion of the national economy; and from the standpoint of tax burden, local public bodies have risen in relative importance.

As will be clear from Table 1, the prewar (1934–36 average) local tax burden came to 4.4 percent of the national income. This proportion has been upped, since the war, to between 5.6 and 5.9 percent. The same, of course, can be said of the national tax burden; and, whereas before the war local tax amounted to about 50 percent of the national tax, the ratio of local to national tax in fiscal 1957–58 is down to about 40 percent. This is misleading in that it may cause one to think that the growth of local government finance is not significant.

Table 2 indicates clearly, however, that in the real apportioning of tax revenue between the national government and the local bodies the latter get a much bigger share. At first glance it may appear, because 70 percent of all tax revenue is in the form of national taxes, and only 30 percent is collected by the local government bodies, that the national Budget is

predominant. But when the transfer of funds from the national account to the local accounts in such forms as local tax subsidy grants, outright grants to local bodies, and subsidies to local bodies is taken into account the true distribution of tax revenues becomes: 37 percent for national government use, and 63 percent for local government outlays.

The real ratio of national to local government use of gross tax revenue before the war (1934–36) was national, 52 percent versus local, 48 percent. From this it can be seen how great has been the proportionate growth of local government finance. This postwar tendency continues to become accentuated.

The process of this growth, as analyzed by local body, is shown in Table 3. It will be seen that as against city, township, and village the growth in fiscal scale of prefectural governments (including Tokyo Metropolitan Government and Hokkaido) has been phenomenal. This is mainly because, during the Allied Occupation, the prefectures were changed in status, and given autonomy similar to that enjoyed

1. LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE PROGRAM, FISCAL 1957–58
(In ¥100 million)

	Value	Comparison with 1956–57 (△ decrease)
Expenditure		
Outgo Conducive to Consumer Spending		
Pay	443,566	40,665
Assemblymen, Committee Members	5,432	△ 653
Teachers (Compulsory Education)	170,471	17,398
Policemen	41,038	3,677
Other Employees	226,625	20,243
Pension, Retirement	21,385	1,493
Other Outgo	263,735	11,880
Subsidized by the Treasury	109,187	7,076
Not Subsidized by the Treasury	154,548	4,804
Subtotal	728,636	54,038
Bonds Servicing	86,731	24,339
Maintenance	25,755	8,095
Investment	—	—
Public Works	189,193	15,634
General Construction	139,445	21,284
Rehabilitation from Disaster Damages	49,748	△ 5,650
Unemployment Relief	30,240	△ 314
General Unemployment Measures	23,351	△ 670
Special Unemployment Measures	6,889	356
Local Government Enterprises	78,789	5,434
General Construction	72,839	5,526
Rehabilitation from Disaster Damages	5,980	△ 102
Subtotal	298,222	20,804
Other Outgo	16,721	3,169
Expenditure Total	1,147,115	101,445
Revenue		
Local Taxes	460,513	62,829
Regular Taxes	449,221	57,286
Special Taxes	11,292	5,543
Taxes Collected for Local Government	29,666	6,025
Admission Tax	17,707	1,486
Local Highway Tax	11,373	3,953
Local Tonnage Due	586	586
Treasury Grants out of Taxes	194,372	31,574
1957–58 Amount	186,772	23,974
Carried Over from 1956–57	8,600	8,600
Treasury Grant in Aid	295,600	17,770
Compulsory Education	84,700	7,750
Other Subsidies	72,554	2,242
Public Works Subsidy	119,583	8,195
Unemployment Relief Subsidy	18,763	△ 417
Local Government Bond Sales	52,000	△ 19,500
Sundry Revenue	113,464	1,247
Others	500	500
Revenue Total	1,147,115	101,445

Source: Autonomy Agency.

2. PERCENTAGE OF TAXES AGAINST NATIONAL INCOME
(In ¥100 million)

Year	National Income	Taxes			Percentages		
		State	Local	Total	State	Local	Total
1954–6	143	12	6	18	8.5	4.4	12.9
1950	33,610	5,708	1,882	7,591	17.0	5.6	22.6
1952	51,953	8,430	3,077	11,507	16.2	5.6	21.9
1954	61,234	9,340	3,658	12,999	15.3	5.9	21.2
1955	67,947	9,368	3,814	13,183	13.8	5.6	19.4
1956	69,710	9,612	3,976	13,589	13.8	5.7	19.5
1957	81,800	10,948	4,605	15,553	13.4	5.6	19.0

Note: Square accounts up to 1955; estimates for 1956 and 1957.
Source: Autonomy Agency.

by the state governments in the United States of America. This caused a general increase in administrative costs. It is of course desirable to see growth and consolidation of local finance. But the trouble is that expenditures generally go far beyond the means of the local population. It will be seen from Table 3 that in prewar years and in fiscal 1950–51 and fiscal 1952–53 overall revenue exceeded overall outgo. But since 1954–55 expenditure has invariably exceeded revenue, and although on paper the results for fiscal 1956–57 appear to be in balance, that is because the expenditures are as budgeted, not actual.

3. DISTRIBUTION OF TAXES AMONG STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS
(In ¥100 million)

	1935		1950		1957	
	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%
National Taxes	1,202	65	570,849	75	1,094,848	70
Amount used by state	955	52	351,755	46	572,840	37
Local Taxes	632	35	188,281	25	460,513	30
Amount used by local government	874	48	407,385	54	982,521	63
Tax Total	1,834	100	759,130	100	1,555,361	100

Source: Autonomy Agency.

Let us then look into the deficit problem, on the basis of the settlement of accounts for fiscal 1955–56 as recently made public by the Autonomy Agency.

By the final account for fiscal 1955–56, the local governments had in that year revenue of ¥1,163,200 million against which the outgo stood at ¥1,176,200 million to result in a deficit of ¥13,000 million. To this must be added some ¥41,900 million in "works in progress" (funds diverted to other uses, leaving projected work unfinished) and in "deferred payments" (projects completed, but payments postponed for lack of funds), to bring up the real deficit to ¥54,900 million.

In this connection, since the real deficit for fiscal 1954–55 was ¥58,300 million, it can be said that fiscal 1955–56 was an improvement by some ¥3,400 million. At any rate, these real deficits have invariably been incurred: 1952–53, ¥25,000 million; 1953–54, ¥17,200 million; and 1954–55, ¥22,600 million. Consequently, the accumulated deficit at the end of fiscal 1955–56 was, as has been already stated, ¥54,900 million.

The contributors to the real decifit of fiscal 1955–56 were the so-called real deficit local bodies, the deficits of which totalled ¥64,200 million. In order

to alleviate the distress of local government finance there were taken in fiscal 1955–56 and 1956–57 such measures as emergency local grants and the shelving of deficits (about ¥40,000 million). In line with this action, 588 local bodies prepared reorganization and financial improvement plans for submittal to the Autonomy Agency, and the general policy aims to rid all local bodies of deficits within ten to fifteen years. Naturally, these local governments are endeavoring to retrench on outlays.

Because the local governments are in the shape explained above, the natural increase in tax revenue expected in fiscal 1957–58 has not been utilized for tax abatement, and will be directed toward projects that have had to be held in abeyance. This is in sharp contrast to the national finance situation where, under the 1957–58 Budget, one half of the expected natural increase in tax revenue, estimated at ¥200,000 million, has been given up for tax reduction, and the other half has been earmarked for additional expenditures. In the case of local government finance the expected natural revenue increase of ¥70,000 million has been almost completely diverted toward expenditure.

When to this is added, among other things, the increase in local tax subsidy grants for fiscal 1957–58, the expenditure program for the year becomes bigger by about ¥101,400 million than that of 1956–57.

This increase is due to such things as the ¥40,700 million extra needed to meet the requirements of higher pay for local government employees. This figure is arrived at by assuming that the overall average of annual pay raises will be 4 percent, while there will be a 6.2 percent increase in base pay. The total pay for fiscal 1957–58 will then come to ¥443,600 million, or close on 40 percent of all local outgo.

Another contributory factor is the ¥15,700 million increase in public works expenditures, while the ¥14,300 million increase in bonds redemption and interest payments is also big.

Next, let us deal briefly with the tax system revision. Despite the big reduction effected in the national income tax there will be not much change in the residence tax, a local tax. This is because the local residence tax (ward tax in Tokyo and other cities) is levied on the basis of personal income tax paid for the previous year (1956). Consequently, it will not be until 1958–59 that the residence tax, reflecting the national tax abatement, will decline appreciably. However, because most local bodies are suffering from deficits and lack of sources of revenue, they would not be able to withstand this drop in revenue. Consequently, it has been decided to up the residence tax rate (currently 21 percent of the income tax assessment for the preceding year) to 26 percent in fiscal 1958–59 and to 28 percent in 1959–60 to reduce the decline in revenue.

Another tax abatement measure is to reduce the burden on small businesses, and from fiscal 1957–58 the following enterprise tax rates will be used:

A) on the income of corporate businesses: when income is under ¥500,000 the rate will be 8 percent (heretofore, 10 percent); between ¥500,000 and ¥1,000,000, 10 percent (heretofore, 12 percent); and above ¥1,000,000, 12 percent (same as heretofore).

B) on income of non-corporate businesses: under ¥500,000 will be taxed 6 percent (heretofore, 8 percent), and over ¥500,000, 8 percent as heretofore.

In addition, the tax formulas for local private railways and tramways have been changed to yield additional revenue, while because there is a general complaint against the burden of entertainment and restaurant taxes, some slight reductions in rates have been made.

Another change in the tax system is that the fixed assets tax (national) on ocean-going bottoms has been reduced by one-half. On the other hand, the tonnage tax (national) on ships entering port, because it has been considerably lower than in other parts of the world, will be increased from August to ¥8 per ton (heretofore ¥6), while a special surcharge of ¥10 per ton will be levied for local governments.

The light oils transaction tax (local) rate has been upped to ¥8,000 per kiloliter (heretofore ¥6,000) to keep in line with the national gasoline tax which has been increased.

Another tax regulation, which concerns foreign corporations, is the new rule that when a foreign corporation does business in Japan without establishment of office or place of business in locations where the local tax law is enforced, but when there does exist an office or place of business, which, by definition by government ordinance, may be considered as an established office or place of business of the foreign corporation (e.g. commissioning of a local agency by a foreign insurance company), the local enterprise tax must be paid.

4. LOCAL FINANCE SCALES BY YEARS

(In ¥100 million)

		1934–35 Average	1950	1952	1954	1955	1956	1957
Revenue	Prefectures	10	2,966	4,811	6,708	6,878	6,086	6,671
	Towns, Villages	17	2,534	3,720	4,728	4,754	4,371	4,800
	Total	27	5,500	8,531	11,436	11,632	10,457	11,471
Expenditure	Prefectures	9	2,840	4,729	6,774	6,845	6,086	6,671
	Towns, Villages	15	2,390	3,691	4,928	4,917	4,371	4,800
	Total	24	5,230	8,420	11,702	11,762	10,457	11,471

Note: Square accounts up to 1955; estimates for 1956 and 1957. Source: Autonomy Agency.

Industry

Iron & Steel

FOR the iron and steel industry, 1956 was an unprecedentedly prosperous year. Raw steel output increased by 18% over a year ago and far eclipsed the 10-million metric ton mark for the first time in the history of Japanese industry. Following the marked boost in the past two years, rolled steel production again was up 18% as shown in Table 1. Purchases from abroad showed an appreciable gain while on the other hand overseas sales declined visibly. For all this, supply got tighter and tighter because domestic demand turned out exceptionally brisk.

1. IRON & STEEL PRODUCTION IN 1956
(In 1,000 mt.)

	1956	1955	Gain, %
Blast Furnace Pig Iron	5,704	5,039	13
Raw Steel	11,106	9,408	18
Ordinary Hot-rolled Steel*	8,186	6,932	18
Special Hot-rolled Steel	496	319	56

*Including re-rolled products.
Source: Japan Iron & Steel Federation.

Rolled steel delivery in 1956 added up to 8,240,000 mt., or up about 1,200,000 mt. from a year ago. Of this total, sales for local use comprised as much as 7,559,000 mt., or a sizeable increase of 1,530,000 mt.

Export contracts summed up to 1,171,000 mt., but this was nearly one half 1955's total. Shipments declined by 700,000 mt. to 1,372,000 mt.

Rolled steel imports, on the other hand, amounted to 225,000 mt., or a gain of 160,000 mt. It is particularly noteworthy that over 27,000 mt. of ordinary steel ingot and semi-finished products were bought from abroad, whereas very few tons of such items were imported in 1955. This clearly indicates how eagerly rolled steel production was stepped up in the past year.

Due to the tightness of supply, steel quotations began to soar in the middle of last year, but the market soon calmed off as the Government announced to validate purchases from abroad as a countermeasure (see Table 2).

As for raw materials for iron and steel, it became all the more accentuated last year that local supply had reached its limits, and that it could hardly be sufficient for any boost of steel production. Imports totalled 7,700,000 mt., or up 40% from 1955, for iron ore; and 3,040,000 mt., or up 50%, for coking coal. Not only that, pig iron purchases jumped to 310,000 mt. from 1955's 20,000 mt.

As a result, material expenses rose so that the production cost of steel steeply climbed up. But this handicap was written off fully by the appreciable production growth and price soaring. Thus, almost all the iron and steel companies enjoyed bigger sales

2. PRODUCER'S PRICES & MARKET QUOTATIONS OF MAJOR STEEL PRODUCTS
(In 1,000 per mt.)

	Shape (6×65 mm)		Bar (19 mm)		Plate (12 mm)		Sheet (0.29 mm)	
	P.P.*	M.Q.**	P.P.	M.Q.	P.P.	M.Q.	P.P.	M.Q.
1956: Jan.	44	46	43	46.5	48	58	61	67
Feb.	44	45	43	44	48	57.5	61	67
Mar.	44	44.5	43	44.5	48	56	61	66
Apr.	44	49.5	43	49	48	56.5	61	65
May	44	61	43	56.5	48	62	61	69
June	47	58	46	57	52	65	64	72
July	47	70	46	65.5	52	75	64	76
Aug.	47	83	46	79.5	52	108	64	92
Sept.	47	97	46	97	52	122	64	97
Oct.	47	82	46	76.5	52	114	64	83
Nov.	50	80	49	77.5	56	122	68	82
Dec.	50	69	49	67	56	98	68	79
1957: Jan.	50	68	49	65	56	92	68	76

*The producer's prices announced by Yawata Iron & Steel Co. in the indicated months.
**The market quotations prevailing at the month end in Tokyo.
Source: The Rolled Steel Club.

and higher profits, while on the other hand their debts shrank substantially. Making the best use of these circumstances, leading corporations increased their authorized capital one after another.

Future prospects are as bright as ever. In fiscal 1957 starting with April, rolled steel production is expected to show an increase of 10% as shown in Table 3. This schedule, however, is conditioned on the following material supplies: i.e. 6,700,000 mt. of blast furnace pig iron and 12,900,000 mt. of raw steel to be manufactured at home, and 3,100,000 mt. of scrap iron to be purchased from abroad. Exports of iron and steel products, on the other hand, are estimated at 1,350,000 mt.

3. FISCAL 1957 SUPPLY & DEMAND OF STEEL PRODUCTS*
(In 1,000 mt.)

	1957 (scheduled)	1956 (estimated)
Demand	10,360	9,000
Supply		
Local production	8,860	8,030
(Hot-rolled steel output	9,090	8,380
Re-rolled products output	400	400
Total output	9,260	8,430
Imports	1,100	..
Total Supply	10,360	..

*In terms of cold-rolled steel products.
Source: Compiled by *The Oriental Economist.*

Activities of about 20 big steel corporations are briefly surveyed in the following (authorized capital in million yen, the date of incorporation in brackets for each firm).

Yawata Iron & Steel *(¥15,000; Apr., 1950)*

This company, together with Fuji Iron & Steel, were established in 1950 when the now defunct Japan Iron & Steel Corp., a semi-governmental wartime organization, was ordered to deconcentrate itself under the Law for Abolition of Excessive Concentration of Economic Power. At that time it was capitalized at not more than ¥800 million, but its capital

has since been boosted several times to the present level of ¥15,000 million.

Under its wings are two big plants, namely the Yawata Ironworks (Fukuoka pref.) and the Hikari Ironworks (Yamaguchi pref.). As a well-integrated factory manufacturing pig iron, raw steel and rolled products, the former constitutes part and parcel of the company's gigantic business. It has modern equipment for making secondary products as well. Its annual production capacity is rated at 2,376,000 mt. for pig iron, 2,638,000 mt. for raw steel and 2,323,000 mt. for rolled products. Recently established, the Hikari Ironworks is equipped with the rolling capacity of 200,000 mt. a year.

In addition to the two 1,000 mt. blast furnaces and allied facilities built before the Second World War, the company has constructed since the war's end a steelworks with seven open hearth furnaces, a cold strip mill, an electro-plating tin-plate plant and a wire rod mill. A plate plant now under construction will soon be completed. Moreover, construction plans are under way for a 1,500 mt. blast furnace, a top-blown converter with oxygen as fuel, and other up-to-date equipment. It is also to be noted that the company has signed a technical cooperation contract with Armco interests (U.S.A.) for introduction of modern rolling and plating techniques.

In the April–September 1956 term, its sales adding up to ¥58,759 million, the company earned a profit of ¥2,186 million and declared a 12% dividend.

Fuji Iron & Steel *(¥13,000; Apr., 1950)*

This is a sister firm of Yawata Iron & Steel, both simultaneously incorporated as successors to the former Japan Iron & Steel Corp. Its inaugural capital set at ¥400 million, it is now capitalized at ¥13,000 million.

The company is operating three ironworks at Muroran (Hokkaido), Kamaishi (Iwate pref.) and Hirohata (Hyogo pref.), and one steel mill at Kawasaki (Kanagawa pref.). The former three plants are manufacturing through an integral process pig iron, raw steel and rolled products. They have recently started making secondary products as well. All told, the yearly production capacity is rated at 1,992,000 mt. for pig iron, 1,598,000 mt. for raw steel, and 1,378,000 mt. for rolled products.

Two 1,000 mt. blast furnaces and twelve 150 mt. converters (five at Muroran and seven at Hirohata) are under operation. At Hirohata, intermediate plate and strip mills (both hot and cold) have been built since the war's end. Construction works are being hurried up for a hot strip mill at Muroran, large type rail and silicon steel plants at Kamaishi, and an electro-plating tin-plate mill at Hirohata. Plans are under consideration for a blast furnace and top-blown converters.

From April through September, 1956, the company sold ¥45,816 million worth of products, netted ¥2,031 million, and declared a dividend of 12% per annum.

Nippon Steel Tube *(¥15,000; June, 1912)*

Though set up for tube making in 1912, this company absorbed the former Tsurumi Iron Mfg. & Shipbuilding Co. in 1940. It has since been expanding its business in both fields. Thus, it is now operating a series of plants as follows: i.e. two ironworks at Kawasaki and Tsurumi (both Kanagawa pref.), two electric furnace plants at Toyama (Toyama pref.) and Niigata (Niigata pref.), and allied fertilizer and refractory brick plants in the iron and steel division; and the Tsurumi Shipyard (Kanagawa pref.), the Asano Dockyard (Kanagawa pref.) and the Shimizu Shipyard (Shizuoka pref.) in the shipbuilding division.

With these plants, the company can turn out in each year 946,000 mt. of pig iron, 1,252,000 mt. of raw steel, 1,174,000 mt. of rolled products and 64,000 mt. of alloy steel. And its shipyards are able to build 40,000 gross tons a year. It has recently constructed modern mills for butt-welded pipes and plates. In the shipbuilding field, block building and electric welding techniques have widely been introduced. Ambitious plans are being considered for modernization of its intermediate-bore seamless pipe mill and construction of a new sheet mill and a blast furnace.

In the six-month term ending with September, 1956, sales turnover totalled ¥40,000 million, and profits summed up to ¥1,694 million with the dividend declared at 15% a year.

Sumitomo Metal Industries *(¥5,000; July, 1949)*

As one of Sumitomo's prospering enterprises, this company specialized in steel pipes and copper rolled products before the war. But it has been manufacturing pig iron, wire rods, bars and shapes as well since it took over the Kokura Steel Works in 1953. It now is operating a steelworks at Osaka, a steel pipe plant at Amagasaki, a steelworks at Wakayama, an ironworks at Kokura, a copper rolling mill at Nagoya, a magnetic steel plant at Suita, and an aircraft factory at Amagasaki. Major products are pig iron (the yearly capacity at 217,000 mt.), steel tires (150,000 mt.), steel pipes (172,000 mt.), and strips and other rolled products (510,000 mt.).

Since the war's end, the company has been directing efforts toward substantial renovation of steel pipe manufacturing equipment. Moreover, it has plans up its sleeve for expansion of raw steel and steel pipe making facilities and for construction of a blast furnace at Wakayama.

In the last business term closing with September last, its sales amounting to ¥23,553 million, the company netted a profit of ¥652 million (after corporation tax), declaring a 12% dividend.

Kawasaki Steel *(¥6,100; Aug., 1950)*

Succeeding to the steel department of the Kawasaki Shipbuilding Co. (now renamed Kawasaki Jukogyo), this firm was incorporated in 1950 with authorized capital at ¥400 million. Of its total output,

plates and sheets comprise over 75%. It is now operating six plants: namely, Fukiai (Kobe), Hyogo (Hyogo pref.), Nishinomiya, Chita (Handa City), Kuji (Iwate pref.) and Chiba (Chiba pref.).

Constructed after the war, the Chiba Ironworks is the most up-to-date establishment of this sort in Japan. Construction works were finished in September, 1954, for a 600 mt. blast furnace, three 100 mt. open hearth furnaces and a blooming mill. As the second-stage program, hot and cold strip mills are being built at the total cost of ¥10,831 million, of which ¥5,531 million is borrowed from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development. These will be completed by April, 1958. Upon completion of this program, the company's yearly capacity will be 334,800 mt. for the blast furnace (already under operation), 420,000 mt. for the open hearth furnaces (under operation), 1,200,000 mt. for the blooming mill, 600,000 mt. for the hot strip mill and 300,000 mt. for the cold strip mill.

In the semi-annual term ending with October, 1956, the company sold ¥22,616 million worth and netted ¥51 million. And it paid a 5% dividend for the first time since its incorporation and a stock dividend equivalent to 25% of the paid-up capital (¥4,000 million).

Kobe Steel Works *(¥7,968; June., 1911)*

Located at Kobe, this company is manufacturing not only iron and steel products but industrial machinery and other equipment as well. In the early postwar years, it deconcentrated its business activities and incorporated two subsidiaries, one for non-ferrous metals and the other for electric machinery. But the former was again amalgamated into the mother firm in January, 1957.

In addition to the main plant at Kobe, there are six factories, of which the Takasago Plant (Kobe pref.) has been purchased for manufacture of large-size cast and forged products. The company now is equipped with the capacity of 398,000 mt. a year for rolled products and of 42,000 mt. for welding rods. It is estimated that it accounts for 25% of the nation's total output for ordinary wire rods, as much as 54% for special wire rods, and 55% for welding rods.

For technical improvement, the company bought a new blooming mill from Germany (Schloemann Ltd.) in 1955 and a wire rod mill from Sweden (Morgårdhammar Ltd.) in 1956. Moreover, it is said to have mapped out a plan for building a blast furnace.

In the April-September 1956 term, sales totalled ¥16,672 million and net profits (after corporation tax) ¥414 million with the dividend rate set at 12% per annum.

Japan Steel Works *(¥840; Dec., 1950)*

This is one of the oldest steelworks in Japan as it was established in 1870 for making high-quality steel and weapons through joint investments by Hokkaido Colliery & Steamship, a Mitsui affiliate, and two British firms—Armstrong-Whitworth and Vickers. Put under control of the Japanese Navy, it later played a very important role for manufacture of arms and military equipment before and during the war.

With the end of hostilities, the company re-converted to civilian manufacture and made a fresh start as a second company of the wartime corporation in 1950. It has since been making rolled products, forgings, castings and machinery.

The company has two outstanding features: namely, 1) the production of heavy products, such as large-size forgings and castings through a 10,000-ton hydraulic press and killed steel plates, and 2) the integral process from raw steel to machine building. At present under operation are eight furnaces both electric and open hearth) with their combined capacity at 21,153 mt. a month, and two plate mills with the monthly capacity at 15,500 mt.

April-September 1956 sales amounted to ¥7,942 million, of which rolled steel accounted for ¥3,942 million and marine engines and other equipment ¥3,261 million. In this period, the company earned a profit of ¥307 million but passed a dividend. In the current term closing with March, 1957, however, it will declare some dividend.

Nichia Steel Works *(¥2,400; Mar., 1918)*

Though incorporated in 1918 for making galvanized sheets, this company gradually multiplied its business activities and started making strips on a tangible scale in 1935. Business efforts now are concentrated on this division.

Early in 1951, construction works were commenced for a modern plant at Kure, which was completed in 1954. Equipped with up-to-date furnaces and continuous roll-mills, the new plant can make strips 610 mm wide. Its equipment is being re-modelled so that 800 mm strips may be made in the future.

Including all the three plants, monthly capacity is rated at 24,200 mt. for raw steel 13,800 mt. for slabs, 7,300 mt. for billets, 13,500 mt. for wide strips, 5,000 mt. for intermediate strips, 500 mt. for narrow strips, 10,000 mt. for bars, and 1,400 mt. for cold-rolled strips.

From April through September, 1956, the company sold 127,952 mt. of steel products, valued at ¥6,825 million, of which exports comprised 15,056 mt., valued at ¥782 million (see Table 4). In the same period, it booked a profit of ¥215 million (before tax) and paid a 12%-a-year dividend.

4. NICHIA STEEL WORKS' SALES (APR.-SEPT., 1956)

		Quantity (mt.)	Value (million yen)
Strips :	Over 250 mm	62,671	3,369
	50–250 mm	21,821	1,176
	Less than 50 mm	6,103	382
	Cold-rolled	7,765	548
Sheets		10,426	714
Total (including others)		127,952	6,825

Toto Steel Mfg. *(¥1,000; Oct., 1935)*

This is a successor to the defunct Miya Steel

Works set up in 1921. It has successfully built up its present position through production of window sash bars. Though making shapes and other products as well, its main business still lies in such special kinds of rolled steel as window sash bars, rims and rim ring bars for wheels.

Operating open hearth and electric furnaces, the company makes raw steel and rolled products. Its capacity stands at 105,800 mt. a year for raw steel and 240,000 mt. for rolled products.

As the Tokyo Plant has no area for new construction, the company is building a modern plant at Toyohashi (Shizuoka pref.), which will be completed by the end of 1958. Under construction as the first-stage program are two 30-ton electric furnaces (capacity at 84,000 mt. a year), a large roll-mill (180,000 mt. a year) and other equipment.

As for the company's principal products and their sales, an idea can be obtained from Table 5. In the same period indicated there, the company got a profit of ¥122 million (before tax) and declared a 12%-a-year dividend.

5. TOTO STEEL WORKS' SALES & EXPORTS (APR.-SEPT., 1956)
(In mt. for quantity and in ¥1,000,000 for value)

	Sales		Exports	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Billets	8,173	401	—	—
Shapes	28,899	1,592	824	37
Rolled Products				
Rims, etc. for wheels	4,319	310	—	—
Window sash bars, etc.	4,138	283	32	2
Fish plates, rail accessories	5,724	294	3,096	189
Products for rolling stock	1,824	109	2,560	143
High tensile steel	1,938	110	—	—
Castings	1,148	112	—	—
Total (including others)	—	3,330	6,512	371

Yodogawa Steel Works *(¥1,000; Jan., 1935)*

It was for making sheets and tin-plates that this company was incorporated in 1935. Five years later, however, manufacture of galvanized sheets was started on a substantial scale. Of the current output, galvanized sheets represent 40% and sheets (including cold sheets) also 40%. And cold-rolled strips, various rolls and enamelled wares are also manufactured.

Launching upon a plan for technical modernization immediately after the war, the company bought a four-high reversing mill from Bliss interests (U.S.A.) and installed it at the Kure Plant. Put into operation toward the end of 1954, the reversing mill has the capacity of 4,000 mt. a month for cold sheets. Other equipment capacities stand at 2,625 mt. a month for sheets made by a pull-over mill and at 5,000 mt. for galvanized sheets.

It is to be noted that the company sells abroad more galvanized sheets than it delivers for local consumption. In the April-September 1956 period, overseas sales added up to 15,156 mt. compared with domestic delivery at 10,102 mt. Moreover, the company is widely known as makers of thin sheets galvanized or otherwise.

In the six-month term closing with September last, sales turnover amounted to ¥3,873 million, and profits (before tax) ¥265 million with the dividend at 15% per annum.

Nippon Steel Sheet *(¥1,200; Feb., 1928)*

Osaka Steel Sheet Mfg. Co., a predecessor of this firm, was established in May, 1911, as the first galvanized sheet maker in this country. In 1928, the company separated and reorganized its Tokuyama Plant as an independent subsidiary entitled Tokuyama Steel Sheet Co. But it again absorbed the daughter firm, and at the same time its title was changed to Nippon Steel Sheet.

Not only does the company boast of the longest experience in galvanized sheet manufacture but also it ranks first in terms of production. Toward the end of 1954, it carried out a series of technical reforms by installing an up-to-date reversing cold mill and other machines. Its equipment capacity at present is shown in Table 6.

6. NIPPON STEEL SHEET'S CAPACITY
(In 1,000 mt. a year)

Sheets	141
Strips	120
Cold-rolled Strips	18
Galvanized Sheets	125.4
Raw Steel	21
Billets	90
Galvanized Pipes	15

At the Tokuyama Plant, where alloy steel has been made on a tangible scale, an expansion plan has been worked out for manufacture of 18-8 stainless steel. For this purpose, a 30-ton electric furnace (made by American Bridge Division, U.S. Steel Corp.), a blooming mill, a Sendzimir mill, etc. will newly be constructed by the spring of 1958.

From April through September, 1956, the company sold 111,906 mt. of various steel products, valued at ¥7,916 million, including 10,762 mt., valued at ¥806 million, sold to the Southeast Asian countries. Of the total exports, galvanized sheets comprised by far the largest portion. In the same period, profits (before tax) amounted to ¥382 million, and a 15% dividend was paid.

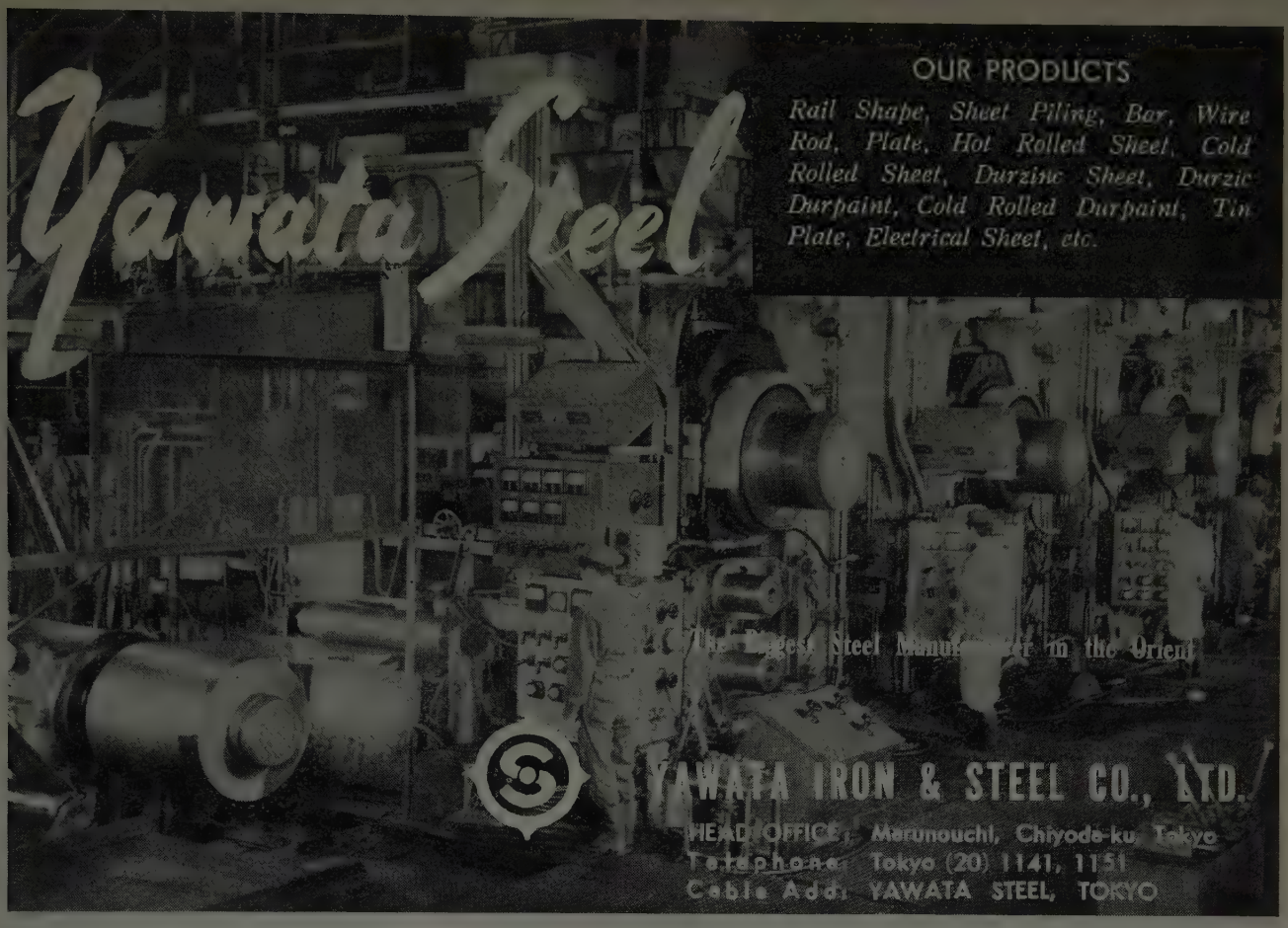
Toyo Kohan *(¥600; Apr., 1934)*

This is a subsidiary of Toyo Seikan, the biggest can maker in Japan. The company is manufacturing both tin-plates and plasco (the latter is the plate coated with synthetic resin varnish). As plasco comprises only 2% of the total output, however, it can be said to be specializing exclusively in tin-plate manufacture. In this field, it is the second largest maker next only to Yawata Iron & Steel as shown in Table 7.

7. TIN PLATE PRODUCTION BY MAKER IN 1955

	Output (mt.)	% of Total
Yawata Iron & Steel	105,490	52.2
Toyo Kohan	60,834	30.1
Others	35,716	17.7
Total	202,040	100.0

The company is equipped with a reversing cold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mill and a Skimpass mill (both fabricated by United Engineering of U.S.A.), an electro-tinning machine and 11 hot-dip tinning machines. With these machines, the company can make 6,000 mt. of tin-plates a month.

In the half-year business term closing with September last, sales amounted to 29,634 mt. (¥2,842 million), of which overseas shipments comprised 2,354 mt. (¥214 million). In the same period, net profit (after tax) reached ¥47 million, and dividend was paid at the rate of 20% a year.

For equipment renovation, the company has ordered a tandem type continuous mill from Mesta Machine Co. (U.S.A.).

Nippon Yakin Kogyo *(¥1,000; Aug., 1925)*

Though established in 1925 for production of industrial chemicals, the company now is manufacturing mostly ferro-nickel from imported ores, 18-8 stainless steel and alloy steel as it has absorbed various subsidiaries in the course of business expansion.

Ferro-nickel is produced at the Oeyama Plant (Hyogo pref.), and it is forwarded to the Kawasaki Plant (Kanagawa pref.), where stainless steel and alloy steels are made on a substantial scale. At the Kanazawa Plant (Fukui pref.), spindles, cutting tools, rolling stock gears, etc. are fabricated. Ammunition and other special procurement items are made at the Totsuka (Kanagawa pref.) and Okitsu (Shizuoka pref.) plants. The latter is also producing carlit explosive for mining and construction purposes.

As for ferro-nickel, the company is one of the biggest makers in Japan with its monthly output at 280 mt. (in terms of pure content). It ranks first in the field of stainless steel, with its monthly production at 1,100 mt. For expansion of the Kawasaki Plant's cold rolling capacity, orders have been placed for two Sendzimir mills, one each from Germany and Italy.

From April through September, 1956, the company sold 3,721 mt. of ferro-nickel (valued at ¥887 million), 5,020 mt. of stainless steel (¥2,440 million), etc., the total value of which reached ¥3,961 million. In the same term, it earned a profit of ¥152 million (before tax) and declared a 10%-a-year dividend.

Nippon Metal Industry *(¥600; June, 1932)*

When it was set up in 1932, the company made mostly rolled copper, rolled brass and electric resistance wires. It soon started manufacturing stainless steel for the first time in Japan. In 1937, construction works were commenced at Kawasaki for an integral plant for stainless steel making equipped from an electric furnace to roll-mills. And a new plant with a three-high hot mill and a four-high cold mill, both fabricated by United Engineering Co. (U.S.A.), was finally completed there in 1944.

Since the war's end, the Kawasaki Plant has been renovated and enlarged. At the same time, facilities for wires and strips (electric resistance wires and strips, stainless steel wires and strips, etc.) at Sendai and Yokohama have gradually been concentrated at the Yokohama Plant, marking a long step toward modernization and rationalization.

Thus, the company now has the monthly capacity of 2,200 mt. for raw steel, 540 mt. for stainless steel sheets, 100 mt. for stainless steel bars, and 60 mt. for wires and strips. Insofar as 18-8 stainless steel is concerned, it ranks second next only to Nippon Yakin Kogyo in terms of production.

In the April-September 1956 term, the company sold 3,478 mt. of products, valued at ¥2,090 million. Of this total, stainless steel sheets comprised 2,543 mt. (¥1,322 million), stainless steel bars 545 mt. (¥255 million), and electric resistance wires, etc. 283 mt. (¥227 million). As for stainless steel sheets, of the total sales, exports accounted for 421 mt. (¥187 million). In the same period, the company reaped a profit of ¥212 million (before tax) and declared a 20%-a-year dividend (including a 5% memorial dividend).

Nippon Stainless Steel *(¥480; Apr., 1934)*

This company was established in 1934 for manufacture of chromium stainless steel, and its Naoetsu Plant (Niigata pref.) was brought into operation in the following year with the yearly capacity of 5,000 mt. In 1938, it cast in its lot with Sumitomo Metal Industries. It has since been expanding its business as one of the Sumitomo affiliates. Before and during the war, machinery were fabricated at the Matsumoto and Takaoka plants. But they were closed after the war. Thus, it now is operating only the Naoetsu Plant.

In time of war, the Naoetsu Plant was catering mostly to military needs. Fortunately, it suffered no damage from U.S. air raids. Upon the termination of hostilities, it turned to civilian manufacture, and it has since been rationalizing its production facilities. Its capacity is rated at 2,100 mt. for raw steel, 600 mt. for sheets, 425 mt. for bars, and 651 mt. for castings and pressings. At present two electric furnaces are being re-modelled, a four-high cold mill is under construction, and pickling equipment for an annealing furnace is being enlarged. Upon completion of these works, the monthly capacity will increase by 2,100 mt. for raw steel and by 585 mt. for rolled products.

In the last business term closing with September, 1956, sales amounted to 2,612 mt. (¥1,097 million) for stainless steel sheets and 425 mt. (¥192 million) for stainless steel bars. Including other products, the total turnover reached ¥1,511 million, of which overseas sales comprised ¥180 million (372 mt. in quantity). Profits (before tax) summed up to ¥118 million with the dividend rate at 12% per annum.

Daido Steel *(¥1,000; Feb., 1950)*

Though its main product is rolled alloy steel, the company is also making wires, castings, extruded products, springs, electric furnaces, poles, "Kappe" (for coal mines), etc. It has concluded a technical cooperation contract with Recto Romelto Co. (U.S.A.)

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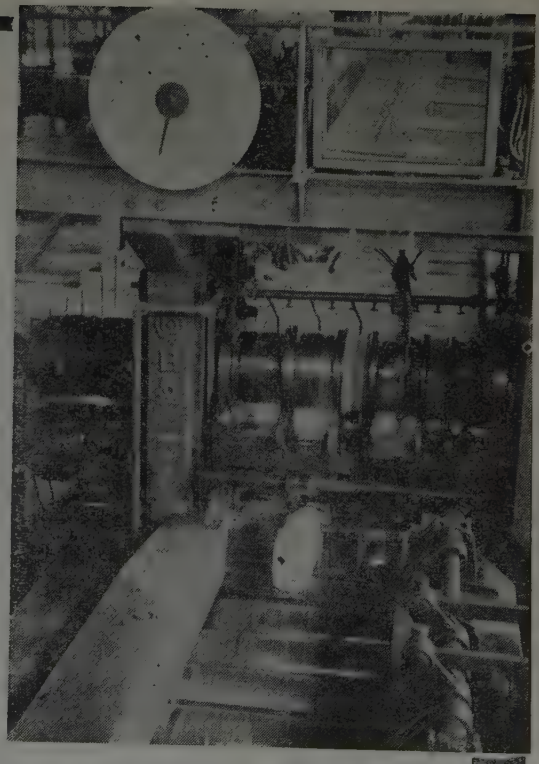

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Among its seven plants, the most important is the Hoshizaki Plant, where five 10-ton electric furnaces, one 5-ton electric furnace, three mills (large, intermediate and small type), and a wire rod mill are under operation. With all the plants, the company can turn out 13,300 mt. of raw steel, 7,400 mt. of bars, 2,300 mt. of wire rods, and 900 mt. of springs per month.

In the second half of 1956, the company sold ¥6,104 million worth of products, of which alloy steel bars comprised ¥2,522 million (26,361 mt.), wire rods ¥623 million (8,258 mt.), springs ¥554 million (4,476 mt.), forgings ¥521 million (3,099 mt.), and castings ¥394 million (2,072 mt.). Of this total, exports accounted for ¥138 million, including 952 mt. (¥115 million) of alloy steel bars. In this term, profits totalled ¥154 million (before tax), and the company declared a 10% dividend.

Mitsubishi Steel *(¥800; Dec., 1949)*

This company was formally incorporated in 1949 as a second company of the former Mitsubishi Steel Co., which had succeeded to the defunct Tokyo Steel Co. It is the oldest spring maker in Japan, but it now is making various steel products as well. It has established itself also as a magnet maker since it succeeded in industrial manufacture of MK magnets in 1933.

Since the war's end, the company has successfully carried out various rationalization schemes. The most important of these is the installation of a blooming mill (completed in February, 1954) and an intermediate mill (designed by United Engineering and completed in April, 1955) at the Fukagawa Steel Plant (Tokyo), for these mills have paved the way for mass production of rolled alloy steel.

The company's equipment capacity now is rated at 10,600 mt. for raw steel, 9,950 mt. for rolled steel, 1,000 mt. for springs, and 21 mt. for MK magnets. Its capacity will curve up rapidly in the near future as one 15-ton electric furnace, two 30-ton electric furnace and a small mill are under construction and because spring and magnet plants are being expanded.

From April through September, 1956, sales added up to ¥3,142 million, of which rolled alloy steel comprised ¥2,024 million (31,869 mt.) and springs ¥710 million (5,733 mt.). And profits reached ¥150 million (before tax) with the dividend rate set at 15% per annum.

Japan Special Steel *(¥600; Mar., 1937)*

If account is taken of its predecessor's activities, the company has been engaged in alloy steel business for 41 years, and it is one of the top makers in this field. Alloy steel represents nearly one half of the total output, but a large variety of products are being manufactured, including forgings, magnets, bulldozers and other earth moving equipment. It deserves special mention that high-grade alloy steel comprises a large portion of the total alloy steel production.

With one 18-ton, one 15-ton and three 10-ton electric furnaces, the company can turn out 4,730 mt. of raw steel a month. With one large type (made by Demag of Germany), one medium size and one small mills, it can produce 1,500 mt. of billets and 2,150 mt. of rolled products per month. It also has a 2,000-ton hydraulic press (fabricated by Hydraulik interests of Germany), with which large size forgings can be manufactured. At present two electric furnaces and one 3,000-ton hydraulic press are under construction. Upon their completion, monthly capacity will rise by 3,500 mt. for raw steel and by 300 mt. for forgings.

April–September 1956 sales summed up to ¥1,557 million (13,803 mt.) for alloy steel products, ¥641 million for machinery and equipment and ¥200 million (1,142 mt.) for forgings. Including all others, the total sales amounted to ¥2,263 million. In the same period, the company reaped a profit of ¥122 million (before tax) and paid a 15% dividend.

Tokushu Seiko *(¥1,000; June, 1929)*

Headed by Mr. Yonetaro Ishiwara, a pioneer in the special steel industry, this company is noted for its high quality alloy steel. It is operating two plants at Kawasaki (Kanagawa pref.) and Kamata (Tokyo).

At the Kawasaki Plant there are five 8-ton electric furnaces, one 5-ton electric furnace, a blooming mill, an intermediate size mill, a small type mill, a strip mill, etc. The Kamata Plant is equipped with three 8-ton electric furnaces, a medium size mill, a forging press and magnet making equipment. Their capacities are shown in Table 7.

7. TOKUSHU SEIKO'S PRODUCTION CAPACITY

(In mt. per month)

	Kawasaki Plant	Kamata Plant	Total
Raw Steel	2,800	1,900	4,700
Rolled Products	1,950	670	2,620
Forgings	200	280	480
Magnets (in 1,000 pcs.)	—	50	50

From May through October, 1956, the company sold the following products: 1) 2,561 mt. (¥543 million) of tool steel, including 129 mt. of high speed steel, 1,385 mt. of carbon steel and 727 mt. of alloy steel, 2) 8,368 mt. (882 million) of structural steel, inclusive of both carbon and alloy steels, and 3) 2,723 mt. (¥396 million) of special purpose alloy steel, such as 1,739 mt. of stainless steel and 806 mt. of bearing steel. Besides, overseas sales of various alloy steels totalled 268 mt., valued at ¥44 million. Thus, the total business amounted to ¥1,819 million, profits reached ¥119 million, and the dividend was declared at 15%.

The company now is stepping up an ambitious expansion program: i.e. one 10-ton electric furnace (made by Recto Romelto), one 10-ton electric furnace (manufactured by American Bridge Division, U.S. Steel), a medium size mill, etc. are under construction.

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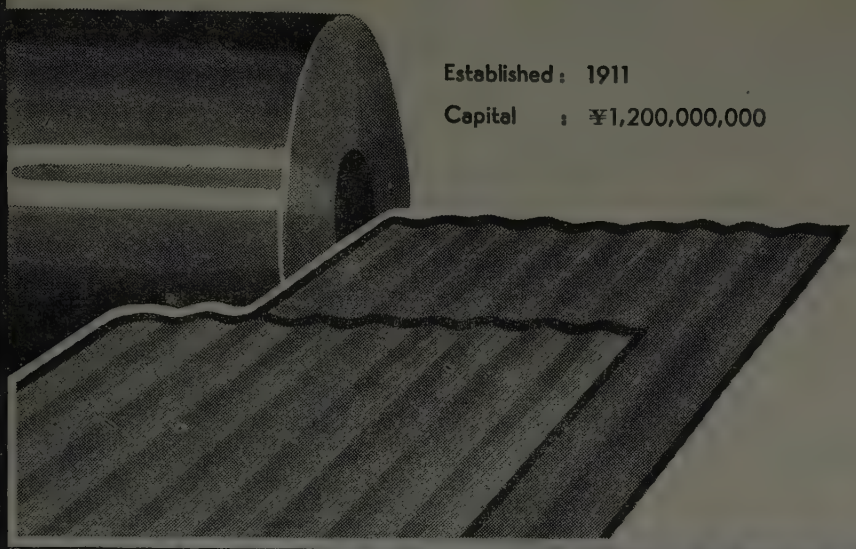

Established: 1911
Capital : ¥1,200,000,000

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Salmon Fishery Problems

By Tomonari Matsushita

THE Soviet-Japanese fishery talks have finally been concluded for this year with Japan authorized to haul 120,000 metric tons of salmon. But there are still many serious problems pending for solution in the future.

The northward advance of Japan's salmon fishery activities began about 1870; and it is since the turn of the century that catches of appreciable size began to be noted.

As a result of the Russo-Japanese War of 1904–05 and the ensuing peace treaty there took place development of fishery in Russian territory, mainly by means of traps in concessions granted by the Russian Government. This was at first largely along the Okhotsk Sea coast of the Maritime Province, but later the center of activity shifted to the east and west coasts of the Kamchatka Peninsula. The main species of salmon caught were the pink, the chum, and the red salmon; and while salting of these catches was universal in the early days, canneries developed in the 1930's.

Historical Background

Since the early thirties there was a rapid growth of mother-ship fishery and fishery based in the Northern Kuriles. The mother-ship used driftnets in the high seas off the east and west coasts of Kamchatka. Compared with present-day practices, the scale of operations was small, while the vessels and equipment used were notably inferior. Salted salmon production was undertaken to some extent, but the emphasis was on canned salmon, so the main catch was red salmon, with the pink and chum relegated to secondary position.

The Northern Kuriles fishery used both driftnets and traps, with the latter yielding more catch; and in this type of fishery the pink salmon far outranked the other species in quantity. As product, canned salmon was predominant, but some salting was also done.

The ten years, from the early thirties to the early forties marked the most prosperous period of Japan's prewar salmon fishery. The annual catch, in terms of 1,000 fish, in the five years ended with 1939, averaged 188,750 units

The average size of operational unit and the average annual production of canned and salted product during the same five years shown in table 2.

It will be noted from the above that the Soviet territory and the Northern Kuriles produced respectively from 30 to 40 percent of the total, and that combined these fisheries occupied almost 80 percent of Japan's total salmon catch. By species, the pink salmon came to about 70 percent of the total catch, far outranking the others.

As a result of defeat in World War II, the main sources of salmon supply, the Soviet territory, the Kurile Islands and Sakhalin fishing bases were completely lost, while resumption of salmon fishery with the mother-ship did not take place until 1952. In that year and in 1953, trial fishing was undertaken by three fishing fleets in the heretofore unfamiliar waters of the North Pacific, and since the results indicated that operations would pay, the number of fleets was increased to 7 in 1954, while in 1955 the 14 fleets succeeded in bringing in a postwar record catch. In 1955, it also became possible to resume operations in the Sea of Okhotsk. The total number of fleets in operation in 1956 increased to 16, but because of Soviet restrictions, the catch turned out to be smaller than that of 1955. From 1953, there has been steady development of driftnet salmon fishery with bases of operation on the southeastern coast of Hokkaido.

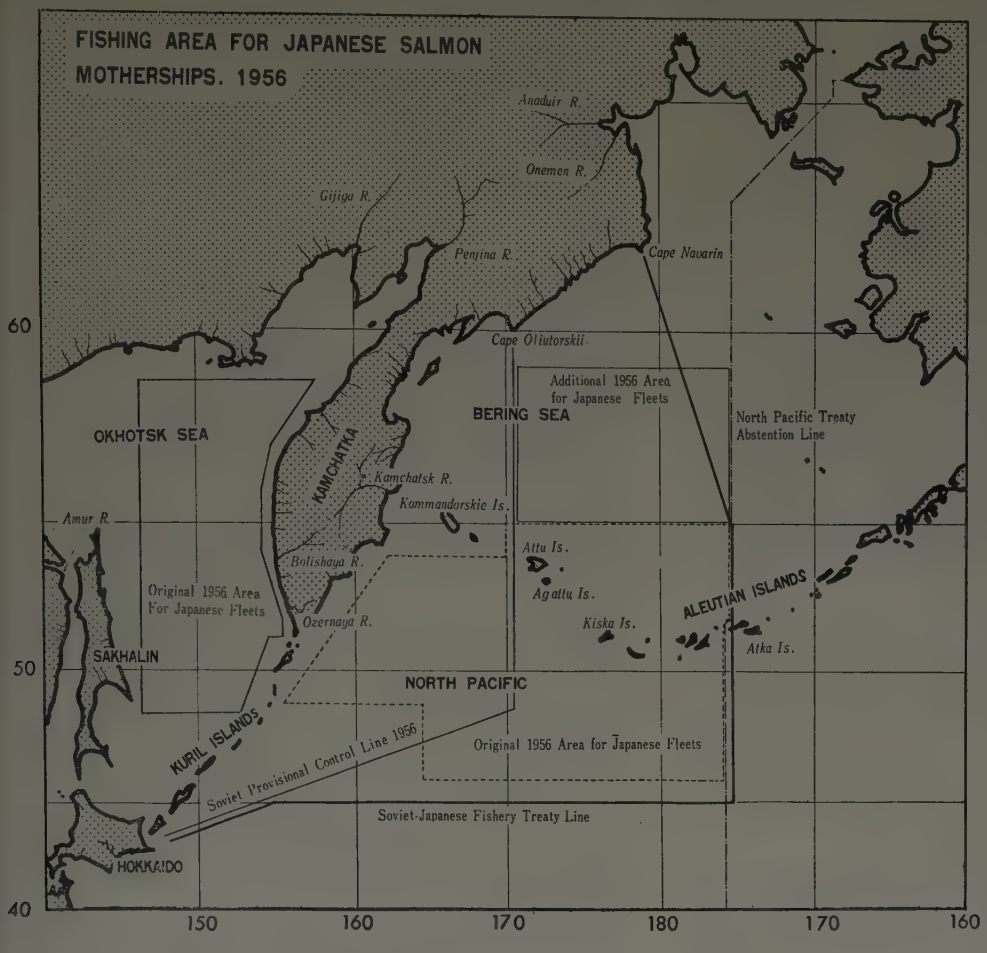
The postwar annual catches of salmon, in terms of 1,000 fish, are given on the next page.

1. PREWAR AVERAGE SALMON CATCH BY SPECIES & AREAS

Area	Gear	Total (in 1,000)	Red	Chum	Pink	Silver	King	Others
Soviet territory	Trap	70,629	5,246	12,705	51,510	1,004	91	73
Northern Kuriles	Trap & Driftnet	77,291	3,484	12,552	59,825	1,406	24	—
Mother-ship	Driftnet	10,363	4,418	3,282	2,408	252	2	—
Southern Sakhalin	Trap	13,894	—	510	13,384	—	—	—
Southern Kuriles, Hokkaido, Honshu	Driftnet & Trap	16,573	—	4,865	11,708	—	—	—
Total		188,750	13,148	33,914	138,835	2,663	117	73

2. PREWAR AVERAGE SIZE OF OPERATIONAL UNITS & PRODUCTION OF CANNED & SALTED SALMON

Area	Number of traps	Number of driftnet boats	Number of other mother-ships	Number of catcher boats	Number of cannery ships	Number of canneries	Number of canning lines	Canned Salmon output (1,000 cases)	Salted Salmon output (M. tons)
Soviet territory	350	—	—	—	—	34	82	1,123	49,557
Northern Kuriles	80	200	—	—	—	10	22	515	88,356
Mother-ship	—	—	4	185	3	—	6	351	7,408



Year	Total	Red	Chum	Pink	Silver	King
1952	2,086	726	626	699	24	1
1953	20,517	1,580	4,531	14,058	340	8
1954	34,748	3,830	12,637	16,745	1,412	74
1955	93,522	12,814	26,247	50,343	4,033	85

The catch for 1956 is estimated at about 81 million; 10 million red, 23 million chum, 44 million pink, 4 million silver, and 150,000 king.

Production of salmon, since the war, by mothership fishery is as follows:

Year	Canned Salmon (1,000 cases)	Frozen Salmon (M. tons)	Salted Salmon (M. tons)
1952	—	1,628	1,643
1953	38	4,433	4,759
1954	270	11,693	11,115
1955	1,486	9,523	22,264

The estimated figures for 1956 are: 1.6 million cases of canned salmon, 14,000 tons of frozen, and 12,000 tons of salted salmon.

Controversial Points Concerning Salmon Resources

The crucial problem of Japan's salmon fishery activities hinges upon Japan's relations with the U.S.S.R. Fishery problems, generally speaking, must be taken up in the light of international relations; and this makes it difficult to work out solutions in a simple manner. Without exaggeration, it can be said that all fishery issues are complicated by international politics. And this being the case, the problems are usually presented in "scientific" terms such as depletion of resources or overfishing. Consequently, it appears that the problem of Japan's salmon fishery will have to be settled in one way or another by political and diplomatic means. Nevertheless, it seems important to summarize the various academic contentions that are being disseminated by the various media of information and opinion.

The Soviet argument, in brief, seems to be that as a result of overfishing of salmon on the high seas by the Japanese there has been a remarkable decrease in the salmon population in Soviet coastal waters. Consequently, it will be necessary to impose strict regulation of Japanese high seas salmon operations.

Countering this contention is the Japanese argument maintaining that Japan's prewar catches did no noticeable damage to salmon resources, that since the quantity of salmon taken since the war is notably less there can be no overfishing today.

To settle these arguments, it will be necessary to ascertain the following points: 1) has there in fact been a decrease of salmon resources? 2) if so, is high seas fishery a major contributory factor?

The Soviet side cites the examples of the Bolishaya and Kamchatka Rivers, and says that, although conditions vary from area to area, there has been a marked decrease of the number of red, chum, and pink salmon running upstream for spawning.

Although there are several indicators which show to some extent, the depletion of fishery resources the most direct indicator is the amount of commercial catch. From long term records of commercial catches, it is possible to see apart from temporary fluctuations, the general condition of fish resources concerned.

According to fishery statistics compiled over the past thirty or forty years, there is no indication, in so far as the salmon in the Asiatic waters is concerned, of any decreasing tendency. The statistical data, although far from complete, regarding the age and weight of the salmon caught also show extremely little fluctuation; and this goes to show that exploitation had had little effect on the salmon stock. Naturally, the conclusions arrived at from these statistics apply to the salmon resources, as a whole, of the northwestern Pacific area, not to the salmon

runs on any specific river. When any specific waterway is singled out for study, there is bound to be fluctuation from year to year, due to variations in climatic and other conditions. From Japan's standpoint, however, the main problem is whether or not the salmon resources of the entire northwestern Pacific area are increasing or decreasing. In this connection, the statistical records, kept from long before the war, show no sign of decline in the salmon stock.

As for the situation after the war, large scale fishing was started only after 1955, that is to say only twice to date. And the catches have been in no way comparable in size to those of prewar years. Even allowing for the catches made by Soviet fishermen, the exploitation cannot possibly be as high as the prewar peak levels. Consequently, there is no sound reason for concluding that the salmon resources are being rapidly depleted.

Turning from statistics to the biological characteristics of the salmon, it is a notable feature of this species that the mature fish, after developing in the sea return, in the summer and autumn, to rivers and streams to spawn. In some suitable riverbed, the female scoops out a trough in the gravel and deposits several thousands of eggs.

The male hovers over her as she spawns and sheds milt to fertilize the deposited eggs. The female fish cover up the cavity and heap up gravel over the eggs. The eggs hatch in the following spring and the fingerlings of some species descend to the sea; but the young fish of other species remain in lakes until the second or third spring before they go down to the sea as smolts. The salmon usually matures in 2 to 6 years, and returns to the mother stream for spawning. Another feature of the Pacific salmon is that all of them die after spawning.

The above, in brief, is the life cycle of the salmon. According to studies made to date, of the several thousand eggs spawned by a pair of salmon, only a few—several dozen at the most—survive to return as adult fish to spawn at their mother streams. It is believed that most die off before attaining maturity, the death rate being highest during the fingerling stage or the fresh-water period.

Consequently, the factors governing survival most notably are such things as water temperature, physico-chemical conditions of the water, and presence of natural enemies of salmon eggs and fries. Other man-made factors, such as lumbering, dam construction, pollution of streams by industrial wastes, are also known to have great effect upon salmon reproduction.

In short the reproduction of salmon are governed in no small way by the natural and man-made conditions other than fishery, particularly in the early fresh-water stages of life. Salmon fishery, in comparison, appears to be a small factor in connection with reproduction; and in this sense the salmon differs entirely from such mammals as the whale and the seal, which are affected more by hunting than by their developmental environment.

Another characteristics of salmon is that it always spawns in the stream of its birth. Consequently, if the river-mouth or the stream is completely blocked by traps or weirs, it is possible to capture all the returning fish. The salmon is, therefore, quite different from such fish as the pilchard or the tuna in its breeding habits and migrations. When salmon fishery is conducted at river-mouths or farther upstream, all the fish returning to spawn can be caught, thus halting the breeding on the upper reaches of that particular river for the year.

Such complete capture, however, is impossible in the case of high seas fishery, no matter how intensive. The salmon caught on the high seas is generally the "adult" or mature fish migrating toward its spawning stream. Even were it possible to catch all salmon on its way, it would not be until some time later, 2 years at the earliest and from 5 to 6 years at the latest, that any effects could be detected. Consequently, as has been contended, the salmon population has decreased simultaneously with the resumption of Japanese fishing activity, then this must be taken as a proof that the cause is something other than Japan's high seas salmon catching operations.

Further, even should it be assumed that the decrease of the salmon runs in such representative rivers as the Bolishaya and Kamchatka be due to Japanese high seas fishing, it is obvious that fishing in the high seas cannot be selective as to the origin of salmon, and there should, logically, be some decrease at other rivers and streams of Soviet territory. Nevertheless, it is known that the total catch of salmon by Soviet fishermen has in no way declined. Taking into consideration of the upward trend of Japan's salmon catches in recent years, there has not been the slightest decrease in the overall catch level of Far Eastern waters. This is strange, and the only explanation can be that the hypothesis was wrong in the first place, that it is a mistake to assume that the diminution of salmon in certain rivers and streams indicates a decrease of the entire salmon population.

All that can be said is that, if the salmon runs of these specific rivers have declined, the cause is not the high seas fishery activities but something else. No one can reasonably accept the Soviet theory that the main factor contributing to decrease of salmon is Japan's high seas salmon fishery.

Japan's Position

It must of course be noted that, because of the reproduction habits of salmon, intensive fishing in the high seas of mature salmon migrating towards spawning streams can cause diminution of the runs

on these streams. In other words, the more salmon is caught on the high seas by Japan, the less will be the salmon available for fishing at the coasts of Soviet. This, however, is a matter of fair sharing of the available salmon, which has nothing whatever to do with the increase or decrease of the salmon stock.

In so far as the intensive fishing of the decade preceding World War II had little effect on the salmon resources, and since for about 10 years prior to the resumption of fishery activities in 1952 Japan did nothing that could possibly affect the salmon stock in an adverse way, Japan's stand in regard to her rightful catch appears to be quite justifiable.

In international disputes about fishery it often happens that contentions are forwarded in regard to depletion of resources when the true matter at issue is the sharing of the available catch. For a satisfactory solution of such problems the conclusion of fishery pacts is essential. This is only hypothetical, but were it possible say to reach an agreement with the Soviet Union on, for example, a 50: 50 sharing of the available salmon resources, much of the present trouble would cease to exist.

Needless to say, salmon fishing is not the only problem to which attention must be paid. For the past several decades the Japanese Government has spent considerable sums of money for artificial hatching and breeding of salmon in Hokkaido. Legislative measures have been enacted for preservation and protection of salmon resources, and scientific studies have been undertaken to ensure sound development of salmon fishery. Unfortunately for Japan, there exist few rivers in which salmon spawn in large quantities; so much of the salmon fishing engaged in by the Japanese must of necessity be of the high seas type of operation. Whether this situation is fully understood by others is questionable. But that is not to say Japan wishes to go ahead with high seas salmon fishing indiscriminately, without proper regulation. It is fully realized that such overfishing cannot be safely done. It is well understood that there must be scientific grounds for measures designed to protect and conserve salmon resources, and that faithful observance of such regulations is the only possible way of ensuring permanence for salmon and other fisheries.

It is the wish of those concerned with Japanese fishery that, as provided for by the Soviet-Japan Fishery Treaty, scientific research for development of salmon and other fish resources be jointly advanced with exchange of research personnel, information and data, in order to promote better mutual understanding, which should lead to the solution of the numerous troublesome problems faced by the U.S.S.R. and Japan.

(The writer is the technical official, Fisheries Agency.)

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THE ORIENTAL ECONOMIST

Glimpses of Japanese Culture

National Treasures of Japan

By Nagatake Asano

Japan has numerous cultural heritages called "Cultural Properties". Of these the most important specimens are registered as "National Treasures," and are placed under the Governmental protection. The present writer wishes to give a rough idea about what is meant by this term.

A Cabinet Notice entitled "Regarding the Preservation of Antiques" was issued in May, 1871. This was the first legislation for Governmental protection of cultural resources. The text of the notice reads in part "These articles include specimens from the Age of Gods to the relatively recent ages, no matter if they are in private collections or are pieces brought from other parts of the world", proving that extensive examinations were made at the time on a wide variety of fields of art. The result of this legislation, however, was no more than detailed registration of articles and owners concerned.

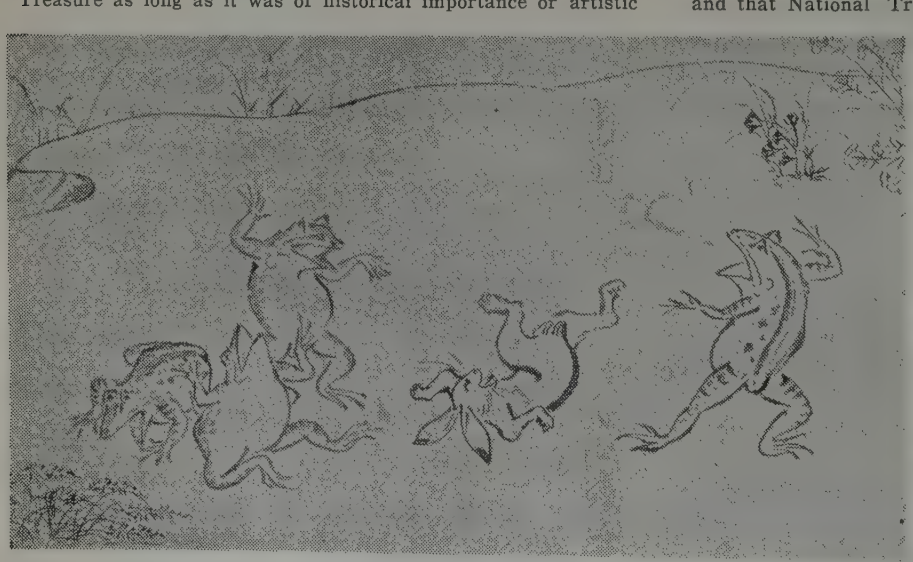
Practical legal protection of National Treasures began with the establishment of Law for Preservation of Old Shrines and Temples in June, 1897. The term "National Treasure" appeared for the first time in this law. This law classified National Treasures into three kinds according to their different categories and different degrees of importance. It supplied Governmental subsidies for their preservation, and provided that the registered shrines and temples in ownership should place their National Treasures on public display at museums. Important examples of old architecture were also registered as Specially Protected Architectural Specimens.

The Law for Preservation of National Treasures, enacted in March 1929, greatly enhanced the Governmental activity for the preservation of cultural resources. The previously registered National Treasures and Specially Protected Architectural Specimens were now collectively called National Treasures, and the classification of their grades was abolished. While the previous National Treasures had been limited to articles owned by shrines and temples, the new law regulated that any object or architecture, no matter if owned by an individual, a public organization or the nation, could be registered as a National Treasure as long as it was of historical importance or artistic value. It was prohibited in principle to take National Treasures, including those in private collections, out of the country. The law ordained that any change in ownership had to be reported to the Government; that National Treasures owned by shrines or temples could be transferred under Government permission, while any such act had previously been absolutely prohibited; and that the transfer of National Treasures owned by the Government required the consent of the Minister of Education.

2. Matsumoto Castle
Located in Matsumoto City, Nagano.

In addition to the regular subsidies and requirements to owners, temporary disbursements were allowed from the Government on special occasions. Subsidies for repairs necessary for preservation were limited in principle to possessions of shrines and temples, but special reasons could draw subsidies to other owners. The owners had the obligation of exhibiting their National Treasures at museums like in the previous law.

The most important of the above-mentioned renovations were that various new restrictions were put on private possessions, and that National Treasures owned by shrines and temples were subjected to much stricter restrictions than those in private collections. These provisions involved a difficult problem: how to adjust the interrelation between the preservative regulations and the right of the owners. In order to settle this problem, the National Treasures Committee in the Diet, after repeated amendments, presented a draft of Law for Protection of Cultural Properties to the Diet in May 1949. This law, with several amendments, was established in May 1950.



1. Scroll of Frolicking Animals
Owner: Kōzan-ji, Kyoto.

The Law for Protection of Cultural Properties, now in force, replaced all previous laws and regulations concerning the protection of cultural resources. Detailed discussions on all and every article in this law are omitted here, but its basic idea is evident from its Article I, stating: "The purpose of this Law is

to preserve and make effective use of cultural properties, in order to contribute to the cultural betterment of the Japanese people as well as to the advancement of the world's culture". By the enforcement of this law, the owners of cultural resources were assured of their rights on equal terms, and their treasures were put under special national protection.

The administrative body of this law is the National Commission for Protection of Cultural Properties, organized by five members who are nominated by the Government from among those who have good knowledge and discernment in cultural matters. The Commission is assisted by the Cultural Properties Experts' Committee, whose members discuss and answer the Commission's questions, and also advise and make suggestions to the Commission, on matters concerning the registration, the cancellation thereof, and repairs, of cultural properties. Special considerations are paid in this law so that the registered cultural resources may be as best preserved and made use of as possible without trespassing on the owners' right.

The new law necessitated a renewed interpretation concerning "National Treasures." The objects and architectural specimens previously registered as National Treasures or Important Art Objects were re-examined; those out of them which were considered especially important were designated anew as Important Cultural Properties. The character of "National Treasures" is expressly described in Article XXVII–2, as follows: "The Commission may designate those among the Important Cultural Properties which are of high value in terms of the world's culture, and which are unparalleled treasures of the Japanese people, as National Treasures." Speaking in greater details, the Important Cultural Properties are specimens of architecture, painting, sculpture, decorative arts, calligraphy, historical manuscripts, archaeology and other tangible cultural heritages which are registered as such because of their historical or artistic significance. The National Treasures are those among the Cultural Properties which are of especially high importance, not only in Japanese culture but also in the criterion of world's culture, and which are to be preserved as irreplaceable treasures of the Japanese people.

	National Treasures	Important Cultural Properties
Painting	137	1,355
Sculpture	104	2,162
Decorative Arts (metal work, ceramics, lacquer ware, textiles, etc.)	212	1,453
Calligraphy & historical manuscripts	235	1,751
Archaeological specimens	23	162
Architecture	184	1,284
Total	895	8,167

The Important Cultural Properties are to be preserved and made best use of through the efforts of the Government as well as of the people in general. They are not simply private properties, but are public treasures of the whole nation. The National Treasures, selected out of them,should be kept under special national protection in order that they may be transmitted intact through coming generations. Because they are public treasures, the designation of Important Cultural Properties does not require the proposal or consent of respective owners, but can be made by force by the Government. Even if an owner, afraid of legal obligations and restrictions involved in the registration, does not wish to have his treasure designated, the Commission can force the registration against his will. The registration is not only for the benefit of the owner but for the good of the public.

On the left is a classified table of National Treasures and Important Cultural Properties registered up to Feb. 1, 1957. The figures of the Important Cultural Properties include those of the National Treasures. The illustrations show a specimen each of painting, sculpture and architecture among the National Treasures.

3. Kannon
Owner: Horyu-ji, Nara.

(Mr. Asano is Director, Tokyo National Museum)

Notes on the pictures

1. The Scroll of Frolicking Animals (Choju Giga) is a set of four horizontal scrolls showing monkeys, hares, frogs and other animals behaving as humans in vivid ink drawing. They are shown merrily engaged in archery, foot races, wrestling and other diversions as well as in solemnly worshipping Buddha.

   Because no story is inscribed on the scrolls, the pictures are interpreted in various ways, but presumably they are satirical illustrations of human affairs in the decadent atmosphere of the twelfth century. Traditionally attributed to Kakuyu, famous priest-painter of the twelfth century popularly known by the title Toba Sojo who is esteemed as the founder of caricature art in Japan, they are masterpieces of early Japanese humour and art.

2. Feudal lords early in the Warrior Age (the Muromachi Period, mid-14th to late 16th centuries) constructed citadels on sites affording natural barriers against their enemies. With the restoration of national order in the Momoyama Period (late 16th to early 17th centuries), castles and associated dwellings were constructed rather on level grounds at places of political and commercial importance.

   The Matsumoto Castle is a fine example of this later type. Its donjon, built in the last part of the 16th century, is the oldest as well as largest of its kind now remaining.

3. None of ancient records refer to this statue, but still it is one of a group of masterpieces in bronze from the Early Nara Period (late seventh century). The style of the period is typified by its lovely face with an "archaic smile", its delicately curving posture, its thin "wet" drapery revealing the curved lines of the body, as well as the representation of its hair, head-ornament, jewel laces, etc.

   The statue is popularly known as "Yumetagae Kannon", literally meaning Kannon who changes dreams, based upon the tradition that if one who has seen a dream of ill omen prays to the statue it changes the dream into a lucky one. This is only a fictitious story, of course, but it interestingly illustrates the graceful benevolent feeling of this statue.

Kaleidoscope

***Farm Household Budget*:**—Farmland families have been enjoying "best years of their lives" for quite some time now. According to the Ministry of Agriculture & Forestry survey, the average farm-house income including those from the non-agricultural operations in 1956 reached ¥267,000, up 1.2% over 1955. Skyrocketing growth in expenditure, however, far outdistanced the increase in income with the average yearly family savings standing at ¥59,000, down 10.8% from 1955.

In detail, income from pure agricultural operations climbed to ¥235,300, up 2.3%, while expenditure for fertilizers and other agricultural purposes jumped to ¥82,500, up 8.6%. Income from non-agricultural operations reached ¥121,200, up 4.2%. This is mainly due to the hiking in forestry incomes such as charcoal and lumber sales.

***Government Cars*:**—Prodded by the Government's "for national cars" movement, 25% of all the Government cars are now made in Japan. According to the MITI report, out of 16,850 cars now owned by the Government offices, about 4,350 cars are national products. Large-sized imported cars and outmoded cars are now being replaced by the medium and smaller-sized cars out of local plants.

***Bicycle Exports*:**—Bicycle exports, although mostly in the form of parts, have been growing. According to Japan Bicycle Export Industry Association, export total in 1956 in terms of value reached $9,500,000, an increase of a gross million dollars. Exports to Africa almost doubled the previous mark and likewise every other customer nation bought more actively than before. By far the best customer remains the Southeast Asian group which combined to buy as much as 82% of the whole exported bicycles.

***Total Fish Haul in 1956*:**—Total fish haul except whales in 1956 was 1,269,000 *kan* (1 *kan*=3.75 kg.) according to the Ministry of Agriculture & Forestry. This was a drop of 3.1% from 1955 catch, but the amount was by no means below normal. Mid-ocean fish haul (which amounted to 44,000,000 *kan* in 1956) saw 13% decrease mainly because of a rather sharp drop in mother-ship salmon catches. Likewise catches in such near-shore varieties as herring, mackerel pike and common squid declined by 3.6% to 1,149,980,000 *kan*. Such nursery varieties as oysters and laver, on the other hand, increased by 17% to 48,030,000 *kan*. Also on uptrend was freshwater fish catch which increased by 10% to 24,240,000 *kan*.

***Billionaires*:**—Billionaires are on the increase. That's what the tax-offices say. In 1955, there was only one person who garnered more than ¥100,000,000 in a year, while in 1956, six individuals saw their dreams come true by copping up more than 100 million yen. The number of those who have earned more than ¥30,000,000 jumped from 23 in 1955 to 48 in 1956.

Biggest money-earner in 1956 was President Konosuke Matsushita of Matsushita Electric Co., the man twice so honored in so many years. Since 90% of the huge income was from dividends and interests, only ¥54,000,000 will be lifted away as taxes.

By industries, makers of household electric appliances copped the highest two spots, while as many as seven coal mine owners elbowed their way into the top twenty seats.

***Japan International Fair*:**—Preparations are now underway for the fourth Japan International Fair which is scheduled to open in Tokyo from May 5 through 19. As many as 27 nations including Japan are expected to participate with about 90,000 items on display throughout 30,000 *tsubo* (1 *tsubo*=about 4 sq. yds.) display grounds.

***National Railways Carloadings*:**—The amount of freight carried on the National Railways eclipsed all the previous post-war marks in 1956 with total freight carried reaching 173,432,000 tons.

By commodities, coal was the undisputed leader in the field with 43,947,000 tons followed by lumber (15,754,000 tons), metal ores (10,654,000 tons), stones and pebbles (8,361,000 tons), cement (7,692,000 tons), lime-stones (7,245,000 tons), fertilizers (6,692,000 tons), iron & steel (4,433,000 tons) and machinery & rolling stock (4,068,000 tons).

Keeping in step with the growth in freight carried, the total of congested freight was also heavier than in any other post-war year. By the end of March, 1957, some 2,431,000 tons of freight were waiting in vain at various parts of Japan for immediate transportation, while at the same time a year ago, the stockpiled freight amounted to only 854,000 tons. The average monthly freight stockpile in 1956 was 1,466,000 tons, a gross 80% increase over 1955, when the figure was only 794,000 tons. This is a clear indication that the transportation capacity of the National Railways has now come to a dead end unless some drastic measures were taken by the authorities.

***1957 Construction*:**—According to the Transportation Ministry estimate, the total amount of money expected to go into construction works in 1957 would be around 1,255 billion yen, up 17% over the 1956 figure. By types of work, engineering category would get 521 billion yen, up 20%, and construction category 679.9 billion yen, up 15%. Especially notable are the 44% growth in the outlay for road construction (¥80.5 billion) and 30% increase in port and harbor facilities innovation and construction (¥14.9 billion). Railway extention works would also get fat 59% increase amounting to ¥56.7 billion together with Public Housing Corporation apartments which would get 69% growth in outlay with ¥27.6 billion.

***Cotton Spinning Productivity*:**—Productivity in cotton spinning industry has made a tremendous improvement in the past ten years. Japan Cotton Spinning Association revealed that the number of persons needed in the production of one bale of cotton yarn (in terms of 20s yarn) shrank from 21.15 in 1956 to 10.42 in 1953 and further down to 7.4 in 1956. There is a considerable difference in the number of workers needed between the "big ten" cotton companies and their smaller competitors. While in the "big ten" companies, only 5.89 workers are needed to produce a bale of 20s cotton yarn, the figure grows to 7.52 workers in the smaller companies. Anyway, the main reason for the productivity improvement in the cotton industry is the simplification and streamlining of production processes.

***1957 Plant Investment*:**—According to MITI, the total plant investment in 1957 by 1,127 influential companies including electric power is expected to reach ¥849.2 billion, a growth of 32.9% over 1956. One of the main characteristics of 1957 investment is the great emphasis laid on such industries as electric power, coal, iron & steel, and machinery where the expansion of capacity is desperately needed. Heavy investment in such rising industries as petro-chemicals, synthetic resin and organic chemical industries is another feature in the new investment trend.

Commodity Market

Chemical Fibres:—Quotations of staple fibre products, on the downgrade since the summer of 1956, began to stop falling towards the close of March as the market reacted favorably to the manufacturers' decision to curtail the monthly production of spun rayon at the suggestion of the Ministry of International Trade & Industry. For instance, spun rayon yarn, which hit the rockbottom at ¥113 per lb. in late March rallied to ¥119 as of April 13. With the processing expense of spun rayon into yarn standing at ¥25-30 per lb., spinners depending on supplies of spun rayon from outside sources, may manage to make both ends meet by purchasing the material at ¥84 to ¥86. On the other hand, spun rayon manufacturers appear hardly pressed, sandwiched between the decline of spun rayon and the rise of major raw materials such as pulp, caustic soda, sulphur and sulphuric acid. According to the Ministry of International Trade & Industry, the February-end balance of inventories of spun rayon products stood at 155,000,000 lbs. (in terms of yarn), more than 2.5-fold the volume of monthly production. Hence, it is held highly problematic whether the April-June curtailment (13% cut from the January output of 66,700,000 lbs. to 58,500,000 lbs.) may prove effective enough to return the balance of inventories to the normal level. In any way, it is generally held likely that the present production cut in the spun rayon industry is bound to continue for some time.

The rayon filament yarn market is equally soft under the impact of successive dampers. Prospective purchases by Indonesia have been bypassed for some time due to the foreign currency shortage and political instability in that country while export negotiations with Communist China proved abortive and sales to Nigeria have been dwindling. With the inventories at major manufacturing centres steadily mounting as a result, production increase projects on the part of major manufacturers have been well in progress, thus offering an additional deterrent to the market. Meanwhile, the latest survey by the Chemical Fibres Association placed the production of chemical fibres in fiscal 1956 (April to March) at 241,000,000 lbs. for rayon filament yarn (including 190,000,000 lbs. of viscose rayon yarn), 733,000,000 lbs. of spun rayon (including 724,000,000 lbs. of viscose spun rayon, and 71,000,000 lbs. of synthetic chemical fibres (including 38,000,000 lbs. of nylon, 26,000,000 lbs. of vinylon as well as vinyliden chloride, vinyl chloride and acrylnitrile groups).

Woollen Yarn:—The prices of woollen yarn have been steadily recovering after the fall to the ¥1,000 mark in the latter half of March. The March lethargy was attributable to a series of dampers including the fall of wool quotations, bankruptcies of some commercial houses and the increasing volume of imported wool. With world wool quotations beginning to stiffen, however, yarn quotations have started to recover gradually, although it will take some time before they may reach the ¥1,100 mark

Like other members of the textile family, the production of worsted yarn increased sharply in 1956, totalling 134,000,000 lbs., up 31% over the 1955 output and far eclipsing the prewar peak (1936) of 103,000,000 lbs. while woollen yarn also increased 19% to register 97,000,000 lbs.

Cotton Goods:—Cotton yarn quotations continued weak since the start of 1957 principally under the impact of increasing production with the 33s item (singles) at the Osaka Sampin exchange diving below the ¥200 mark per lb. on February 21 for the first time in seven months since July, 1956. Market prices of cotton yarn also continued weak into early March, particularly for finer items. The market tone, however, began to recover from mid-March. Responsible for the rally were 1) the expected fall in production due to the power supply shortage; 2) the advent of the demand season for summer items with weavers beginning buying operations of yarn. The price of the 20s (singles) item, which started March at ¥179.10 later climbed to ¥180.90 during the month and continued firm into April. One of the major stimulants to the market was the production slip in March. The March output of pure cotton yarn totalled 223,958 bales, a sharp loss from the February production of 242,040 bales. The market is likely to continue firm until about July, according to the consensus of experts.

Raw Silk:—Raw silk quotations have regained strength in recent months after the fall below the ¥2,000 mark in January. In view of the prospective supply-demand situation, however, the present strength is not expected to last long. With raw silk exports still low, the production appears bound to gain this year. Hence, the market is expected to weaken from about June when "new silk" is placed on the market. The market at present, however, appears bullish as some traders are pushing buying operations strongly in expectation of the possible price hike at the "lean" season. The Yokohama silk quotation registered a recent high at ¥2,096 (21A per kin), and spot prices have been following suit. Whether the present stiffness may be maintained further depends on the future transition of purchases by the United States.

Meanwhile, the March production of raw silk totalled 24,724 bales, marking a gain of 1,075 bales (5.0%) over the February output, according to the Ministry of Agriculture & Forestry. March exports of raw silk amounted to 4,849 bales, also a hike of 195 bales (4.0%) over the February outgoings. It was also revealed that domestic deliveries during March totalled 20,854 bales, registering an increase of 1,513 bales (8.0%) over February transactions. The March-end inventories stood at 12,767 bales.

MAJOR TEXTILE QUOTATIONS

	Cotton Yarn (Osaka)	Rayon Yarn (Osaka)	Spun Rayon Yarn (Osaka)	Woollen Yarn (Nagoya)	Raw Silk (Yokohama)
1957: Jan. 4	187.3	251.9	133.5	1,125	2,037
12	184.9	235.9	129.2	1,122	1,993
19	184.0	229.6	133.8	1,135	2,002
26	185.5	226.1	132.2	1,150	2,024
Feb. 2	184.9	227.1	128.5	1,184	2,070
9	182.7	218.6	123.9	1,173	2,082
16	181.6	224.5	122.7	1,126	2,075
23	181.6	228.1	116.4	1,110	2,040
Mar. 2	175.3	216.9	114.5	1,074	2,014
9	175.0	218.0	113.1	1,037	2,050
16	175.9	213.0	113.1	1,012	2,046
23	180.5	200.2	113.8	1,030	2,030
30	185.0	210.9	118.6	1,076	2,069
Apr. 6	184.9	203.5	118.5	1,046	2,073
13	188.5	214.9	119.0	1,069	2,020

Foreign Trade

Bigger Import Allocations

A policy of keeping up imports of vital materials on a high level features the new foreign exchange allocations for April—September 1957, the first half of the fiscal year. Despite the increasing amount on the debit side of Japan's international payments, the budget was large enough for maintaining a high level of imports. The new budget for payments which was framed on Mar. 30 totals $2,644 million, comprising $2,236 million (including $150 million for reserve and $497 million for imports under the automatic approval system) for commodity imports, and $408 million for invisibles.

Thus, the budget for commodity imports saw an increase of $470 million over $1,766 of the corresponding period of 1956, and that for invisibles a rise of $61 million over $346 of the same period. In particular, an ample frame was formed for importing such basic industrial materials as iron ore, scrap iron, coal and petroleum in anticipation of demand increases in Japan's expanding economy. Also, abundant imports of cotton and wool are planned. Clearly, the policy for buttressing home supplies by importing plenty of materials vital to Japan's industry aims at curbing speculative buying which would likely happen if prices are left to rise as a result of deficient supplies.

1. EXCHANGE ALLOCATION FOR IMPORTS

(In $1,000)

	1st Half 1957	1st Half 1956
Foodstuffs	259,740	242,000
Monopoly goods	5,664	12,000
Lumber	6,942	14,000
Materials for daily necessities	24,488	30,000
Textile materials	378,035	350,000
Fertilizer	21,444	24,000
Coal	82,237	45,000
Iron & steel and materials	288,503	265,000
Non-ferrous metals and non metal minerals	65,851	58,000
Petroleum	109,246	96,000
Chemicals & materials	7,743	5,000
Medical supplies	3,923	3,000
Machinery	190,000	145,000
Materials for manufacture	37,000	35,000
Barter goods	29,900	15,000
Automatic Approval	497,000	352,000
Reserve	150,000	—
Total (incl. others not listed above)	2,236,000	1,766,000

Source: MITI.

Imports of rice, on the other hand, will be reduced to a minimum on the strength of good rice crops at home in the past two years. Sugar, too, will be imported less than the amount imported during the corresponding period of the previous year, because enough stocks have been secured.

Some items of commodities have been transferred from the groups of commodities to which the foreign currency allocation system is applied to the automatic approval system (which automatically permit any application if within the frame of the budget for the automatic approval system). These are phosphate rock, sheepskin, and some chemicals and medical supplies, totaling about 30 items. Such important commodities as tallow and soybeans which had been expected to be included in the automatic approval system in the new budget were postponed.

The new framing of foreign exchange budget which gives enough allocations to imports of important materials is rather welcomed by the economic circles who view it to be a good measure of preventing rise in prices. In some cases such as the allocations for importing cotton and wool, the budget gives more than the amount of these raw materials which the industries wish to import.

The new framing of allocations which are large enough to enable importers to continue large quantities of important supplies to Japan's industries would naturally reduce balance of her international payments deeper into the red if exports continue to amount less than enough to offset the growth in imports. The financial circles fear that the worsening balance of Japan's international payments would result in an adverse balance of about $200 million for the year.

Import Increases

The fiscal 1956 income and outlay in foreign exchange accounts were announced by the Bank of Japan. The income, including income from exports, special procurements and invisibles, totalled $3,336 million, and the outlay amounted to $3,298 million. Consequently, the balance in the black amounted to a mere $38 million, a decrease of $497 million from the favorable balance of the previous year. The above figures discounted the amount of usance from the outlay. If that is included in the outlay, the real balance becomes $182 million in the red, which is a severe worsening from the previous year's favorable balance of $410 million.

This is really a considerable worsening. At the outset of the fiscal year 1956, the government estimated the balance to become favorable at $205 million (discounting usance). The reason for this worsening, however, does not lie in the amount of exports which was by no means small. It rests rather with the tremendous increases which boomed imports of important materials in rapid succession.

Exports during the fiscal year 1956 totalled $2,494, an increase of 19% over the previous year. Imports increased much more briskly than exports. Namely they totalled $2,782 million, surpassing the previous year by as much as 42%. In these circumstances, the outlook for the 1957 balance of international payments naturally will take on a pessimistic color. Nevertheless, if the following conditions are taken into consideration, the continuing increases of imports would likely to reach their own limit during the first half of the fiscal 1957 (April—June), and may decline in the latter half of the year.

2. IMPORT PLAN OF MAJOR GOODS

	1957		1956	
	1st Half	Whole Year	1st Half	Whole Year
Rice (1,000 tons)	74	500	138	427
Wheat (1,000 tons)	1,005	2,200	1,126	2,204
Barley (1,000 tons)	407	880	427	881
Sugar (1,000 tons)	580	1,150–1,200	640	1,260
Salt (1,000 tons)	1,130	2,070	1,316	2,678
Cotton (1,000 bales)	1,347	2,897	1,336	2,627
For Spinning (1,000 bales)	1,200	2,600	—	—
Wool (1,000 bales)	480	1,300	440	1,260
Coal (1,000 tons)	2,580	5,520	1,700	3,633
For steel (1,000 tons)	2,080	4,120	—	—
Scrap iron (1,000 tons)	1,380	2,920	1,298	3,176
Pig iron (1,000 tons)	298	507	379	661
Steel (1,000 tons)	692	1,100	450	1,418
Potassic salt (1,000 tons)	245	520	263	510
Crude Petroleum (1,000 barles)	43,000	93,000	40,000	92,000
Heavy oil (kl.)	528	2,197	490	1,640

Source: MITI.

The conditions that offer grounds for forecasting the hitting the ceiling and decline in increases in imports are the following:

(1) The accumulation in stocks of imported raw materials during fiscal 1956 is estimated to total between $200–500 million. At least a conservative estimate at $200—250 million would probably be true. This amount of stocks as a whole is already more than what is usually held as the proper quantities of stocks, though there may be some individual items that require more stocking. Therefore, it may safely be considered that stocking of materials has nearly reached a saturation point as a whole.

(2) Some increases in the inventories have been due to speculative purchases in anticipation of price rise on account of the Suez conflict. But this type of hurried buying on speculation would likely die down, because the international prices of raw materials tended to soften with the turn of 1957, and the freight rates has shown some decline.

(3) The circumstances as indicated in (1) and (2) clearly show how it is absurd to gain large profits by overstocking that involves expensive charges for interests for loaned money required for importing materials and for storing them. Moreover, money has already become considerably tight for those traders and manufacturers trying to import materials, owing to rapid increases in imports. Even the Bank of Japan plans to take positive steps to restrain the financing for importers that was rather slack in the past.

Thus, the foreign exchange allocations for the fiscal year 1957, despite their apparent inflation, would not likely be spent to the last dollar.

In analyzing the amount of inventories, however, the following must be taken into account. First, increases in stocks during the fiscal year 1956 contain instances of restocking exhausted materials. Secondly, some increases are natural outcome of the growing pace of consumption in certain articles. Consequently, what seemed to be a tremendous amount of overstocking should be regarded less formidable than apparent. Furthermore, factors that strongly influence the growth of imports are not few. They include the speeding up of consumption pace as a result of investments in equipments, growingly heavy dependence on imports of industrial energy sources such as coal and petroleum and materials for making steel, imports of manufactured products to relieve short supplies for home consumption, and the increasing demand for machinery in installing new equipments in factories.

3. FOREIGN EXCHANGE ACCOUNTS
($1,000,000)

	1956	1955	Balance
Total income	3,326	2,839	497
Expots	2,494	2,095	399
Invisibles	841	745	96
Total Outlay	3,298	2,304	994
Imports	2,782	1,956	826
Invisibles	516	348	168
Balance	38	535	⇔497

Source: Bank of Japan.

The policy by the Bank of Japan to restrain the financing for import purposes would likely be less stringent as it was during the autumn of 1953 through the spring of 1954. Therefore, the expected decline in increases in imports which would likely come to pass in the second quarter of the fiscal year 1957 or later after reaching a peak in the first quarter would nevertheless be slight. The fiscal 1957 imports may well total to reach the $3,300 million mark at the settlement. (The government's estimate is $3,200 million). Then, if exports amounted to total $2,800 million, the government's goal, the balance (discounting usance) would become adverse at $100 million.

Trade with Indonesia

The Government of Indonesia informed the Japanese Government that it wishes to abolish the Japan-Indonesian open accounts on the grounds that the open account system has become less satisfying economically. This brings an end to the open account relationship in the trade between the two countries after the expiration of the payment agreement on June 30, 1957.

Under the open account system started in 1954, Japan imported less than she exported because of high prices of Indonesian commodities, leaving accumulated accounts for Japan's excess exports in arrears in Indonesia.

Japan, therefore, started in July 1954 to restrain her exports to Indonesia by allowing only those traders who have imported Indonesian products to export commodities in amounts equivalent to their imports. In licensing traders to export to Indonesia, however, the government permits traders holding licences to sell them to other traders, barring those licences obtained for having imported some special items such as petroleum and bauxite. Those who export by buying licenses from others add about 10% premium to the prices of commodities they export. No export license is given for sugar imports.

4. JAPAN'S TRADE WITH INDONESIA
($1,000)

	Exports	Imports
1953	91,003	50,756
1954	123,272	61,787
1955	67,356	64,788
1956	75,786	77,771

Source: Finance Ministry.

This restrictive measure reversed the trade situation between Indonesia and Japan and Japan's imports from Indonesia during 1955 and 1956 amounted to more than her exports there. And yet the change of tide in trade during these years has never been sufficient to relieve Indonesia from keeping in arrears $170 million due to Japan.

It was in this trade situation when Indonesia notified Japan of the abolition of the open account trade. The notification took Japan disconcertingly by surprise.

Indonesia has so far disclosed no detailed reasons for the abolition of the open account trade. Japanese traders estimate the flolowing points as the likely reasons.

(1) Indonesia applied for loans from the International Monetary Fund, with whose policy against bilateral agreements Indonesia may well have tried to concur.

(2) Indonesia wishes to relieve herself from painful decline in its foreign exchange holdings by restraining her excessive exports to Japan. It tries this by abolishing the open account trade which enables Japan to buy from Indonesia without actually adding any to Indonesia's foreign exchange holdings.

(3) Indonesia is trying to gain solvency for the account due to Japan by transferring it into Japan's reparations to Indonesia.

(4) Japanese commodities exported to Indonesia are priced higher than those exported from Hongkong and Singapore because the prices for Japanese goods often contain premiums for export licences. The abolition of the open account trade will put an end to the practice of export licencing in Japan, which in turn stops the higher prices of exports on account of licence premiums.

The abolition of the open account trade entails factors that influence the trade between the two countries in both ways, towards the decrease and the increase in the trade volume. But factors that reduce the trade volume seem stronger.

A factor that will help increase the trade volume is the liberation of trade from the export licensing in Japan. It will lower the export prices of Japanese goods since there will be no premiums included in them. They will give Japanese exports stronger competitive power. Furthermore, the export prices of Indonesian goods to Japan may be lowered if Indonesia actually gains foreign exchange at the settlement. Here, one must note the fact that Indonesia sells its copra to Japan at about a 10% higher price than to West Germany on the ostensible ground that Indonesia cannot obtain any foreign exchange at the settlement on account of a considerable account to Japan left in arrears.

Nevertheless, in the first half of the first year after the abolition, the shrinkage of the trade volume seems almost inevitable. Even after the abolition of the open account trade, the foreign exchange holdings of Indonesia would require Japan to export to Indonesia according to her imports from there. Now, the important items which Japan import from Indonesia such as sugar, crude rubber, copra, and petroleum, are bought by Japan at higher prices than the international level. The abolition would hardly lower them to the international level in an appreciably early stage. Japan has been buying at such high prices because of the open account system. If she has to settle item by item, she would be less willing to buy at higher prices.

Consequently, the annual volume is feared to decline to $45–50 million. But Japan's trade with Indonesia took only 3% of her total volume of trade in 1956. Thus, even if the trade with Indonesia tended to decline, it would not cause any severe damage to Japan's foreign trade as a whole.

Labor

Unexpectedly Firm Stand of Labor :— Running counter to the general optimism that the *Sohyo* leaders would have little chance of rallying enough rank-and-files to wage a major spring offensive in demand for the ¥2,000 pay boost and the ¥8,000 minimum wage, the labor's stand proved to be unexpectedly firm.

Forsaking the strategy followed in 1956, which consisted of several waves of smaller scale strikes in various industries, the labor this year intended to give a crashing blow by setting a uniform date for all industries to strike. The date fell on March 11 and after when the transportation facilities were unusually strained and the coal consumption climbed to an all-time high. This added to the air of strain which began to drift when the labor announced its intention.

Private Railways Workers Union planned an unaccustomed weekday strike on March 11 but the good sense shown by both the labor and management saved white-collar workers and college examinees (it was an entrance examination season in Japan) from unnecessary unpleasantness. Labor came down from its original demand for ¥2,000 pay base raise to accept management's offer of ¥1,300 boost on the very day of the scheduled strike.

Coal Miners Union, on the other hand, had been resorting to short-hour tactics since February 20 and carried out a 48-hour strike on March 7 through 8. On March 11, the day of planned general strike, the union plunged into a 72-hour walk-out. The matter was finally settled on labor's acceptance of management's offer of ¥1,300 pay raise. The output is said to have gone down by 580,000 tons due to the prolonged strikes.

Unions in the Government and public corporations including the temperamental National Railways Union, likewise had been sticking to their fantastic ¥2,000 wage hike demand until the Public Corporation Labor Relations Deliberation Committee offered its mediation plan of ¥1,200 to each of the striking union during March 9 and 11, which the unions accepted. Government, however, was reluctant to go with the mediation plan on the condition that there was no valid reason to back up the pay boost.

The unions whereupon accused the Government of being uncooperative and the National Railways Union resorted on March 11 and 12 to short-hour tactics and other "show of force" amounting in most cases to virtual strikes. As a result, 113 passenger-car services together with 150 freight traffic services were cancelled, while 307 passenger-car services (230 hours in total) and 108 freight traffic services (780 hours in total) were put to an unnecessary delay.

As the Government remained further unresponsive to the labor's demand fearing if any new pay hike would complicate the deliberation on the new budget, the unions got impatient and threatened to carry out another series of strikes starting from March 16. To save the critical situation, Prime Minister Kishi met the Socialist Chairman Mosaburo Suzuki and later announced that the Government was prepared to carry out the proposed pay hike and that the punishments of the law breakers in the latest strikes would be meted out after careful deliberation. Thus the 1957 spring labor offensive seemed to have ended with National Railways Workers Union and Telephone & Telegram Workers Union burying hatchets with their managements on March 16.

Revolt of the National Railways Workers :—But the story did not end that easily. On March 23, the National Railways Workers Union resorted to a coup of unscheduled strikes on the unreasonable ground that it was entitled to go to extremes when the Government was not prepared to pay one-time allowances by that very day. A glance at the following figures would clearly show what a tremendous disservice the Railways Union did to the general public. On March 23 alone, 651 passenger-car services and 283 freight-car services were cancelled, while 486 passenger-car services (20,500 minutes in total) and 270 freighter services (25,700 minutes in total) were put to delay. On top of that, in and around Tokyo, as many as 550 electric car services were cancelled.

Because of this unexpected series of railways strikes, every railway station, especially in such big cities as Tokyo and Osaka, was thrown into unrelievable confusion- Irritated beyond control, the white-collar commuters and other passengers turned into a virtual mob and stormed into station master's rooms brandishing sticks and other warlike objects. Many were hurt in the scuffles, and some even lost their lives. It was only twenty-four hours later that the railway time-table was set right.

The public reaction to the unscheduled strike was naturally one of indignation. The public argued that the delay in one-time allowance payment was not reason enough for the union to resort to such drastic measures as strikes and that it was unpardonably presumptuous of the union to carry out the strikes without notifying the Government beforehand of its intention—the practice followed even by the private enterprise workers unions. As for the "wild cat" strikes carried out by some of the unions in rural Japan, there is no possible excuse. Such practice would certainly do untold disservice not only to the healthy growth of labor unions but to the Japanese nation in general.

Stung by this sharp criticism, *Sohyo*, arrogant as it usually is, seemed contrite for a change and all but cancelled another conp of strikes scheduled on March 26.

P.C.N.E.L.R.C.'s Mediation Plan :— Public Corporation & National Enterprise Labor Relations Commission offered its mediation plan on April 4 to the 8 government corporations' management and labor. According to the plan, workers of National Railways, National Telephone and Telegram, Monopoly Corporation and Postal Service Corporation are to get ¥1,200 pay hike, while Printing Workers Union members are to get ¥1,450, Alcohol Monopoly Corporation workers, ¥1,090, Mint Workers Union members, ¥1,020 and Forestry workers, ¥1,200. This is not very different from the mediation plan offered by the Central Labor Relations Deliberation Committee, but one point stands out very clearly for the honor of the Commission. That is the Commission's probing into the "black market" allowances which have been fairly common among the government workers. "Black market allowances", in a word, are those doled out by the management without any regal sanction outside the regular pay to appease the workers. P.C.N.E.L.R.C. advised that these allowances be incorporated into the new pay hikes.

The Government, thinking that if the "black market" allowances be incorporated into the new pay hike, only about ¥10 billion is enough to square everything, decided on April 9 to accept the mediation plan. Pay hike plans tendered by the 8 public and government enterprise unions, however, are said to have no mention of "black market" allowances being considered as a part of new pay boosts. So there is, at this writing, a difference of about ¥5 billion between the Government and the 8 enterprise unions as to the amount of wherewithal to make the new pay boost possible.

Another series of labor-Government scuffles is in sight, as the unions are determined to carry out whatever means to get their desired amount out of the equally determined Government pocket.

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Investment Outlook

Nippon Seiko K.K.

As the largest scale manufacturer of bearings in this country, Nippon Seiko K.K. towers high among Japanese makers of bearings, ball and roller inclusive. Of the five manufacturers (Fujikoshi Kozai, Nippon Seiko, Toyo Bearing, Koyo Seiko and Asahi Seiko) Nippon Seiko and Toyo Bearing are the only manufacturers capable of making all types of bearings. The former particularly enjoys a unique position in the production of precision bearings. As the oldest bearing maker in this country, Nippon Seiko made its debut with the capital of ¥350,000 in November, 1916 by succeeding to the business of Nippon Seiko Goshi Kaisha. It was in 1919 that Nippon Seiko started the production of ball bearings on a full-fledged industrial scale under the guidance of an American technical expert. Later in 1921 through 1922, the Company decided to abandon all other lines to devote itself to bearings. The Company's operations took a definite step forward in 1925 when it started manufacturing steel balls with special equipments imported from Sweden in an attempt to become self-supplied in steel balls for bearings which had been completely dependent on imports.

1. MAJOR PLANTS OF NIPPON SEIKO
(As of October, 1956)

Names	Products	Premises (tsubo)	Equipments (unit)	Employees (number)	Book value of fixed assets (million yen)
Fujisawa Plant	Bearings	19,605	2,001	1,596	696
Tamagawa Plant	Bearings	5,478	1,004	822	307
Osaki Plant	Bearings	2,138	371	251	104

Note: Sakuramachi (Tokyo) plant is excluded from the list, as it is leased to another bearing firm.
Source: *The Oriental Economist* for all the tables.

2. NIPPON SEIKO'S BUSINESS SHOWINGS

Terms ended	Sales (In ¥1,000)	Profits (In ¥1,000)	Profit rates (%)	Dividend rates (%)
April, 1954	2,232,558	265,570	13.3	25
October 1954	1,904,678	223,596	11.2	20
April, 1955	1,543,010	160,731	8.0	20
October, 1955	1,697,997	162,148	8.1	20
April, 1956	2,151,280	200,126	10.0	20
October, 1956	2,923,983	328,543	16.4	20(*10)

Notes: The profit rates are against the average paid-up capital per annum. The Company's capital stood at ¥400,000,000 up to the term ended April, 1956.

Nippon Seiko emerged out of the Pacific War with comparatively little damage and the postwar recovery of its Fujisawa (Kanagawa Pref.) and Tamagawa (Tokyo) plants were quick. The Company resumed production of bearings and steel balls for the use of civilian industries at these two plants soon after the war's termination and reopened its Osaki (Tokyo) plant exclusively for the production of large-type bearings in 1950. The details of three major plants of Nippon Seiko are shown in Table 1. The current feature of the Company's production line is special bearing for insert spindles, which no other Japanese bearing makers have been able to turn out so far. SKF is the only other company capable of producing the special-duty bearings in the world.

Equipments of Nippon Seiko's plants have been rejuvenated and modernized on several occasions since the war's termination. In 1952 through 1954, the Company spent ¥1,000 million for revamping and "automating" its grinding machines and heat-treatment facilities and constructing new equipments for the manufacture of super-precision bearings. Testing machines and essential tools were also rejuvenated and modernized in parallel. Under this program, the testing room at Tama plant was completely air-conditioned. All such modernization steps contributed greatly towards boosting the Company's production from the second half of 1955. The Company is scheduled to carry out its second-stage rationalization program in 1957 through 1959 at the total cost of ¥2,000 million. Under this program, bearing manufacturing equipments at the three major plants (Tamagawa, Fujisawa and Osaki) will be either rejuvenated or expanded and new testing facilities will be newly installed. With the Tamagawa plant now fully airconditioned, the Fujisawa plant is also being equipped for similar airconditioning. The business results of Nippon Koki have continued to fare well, except for the two terms ended April and October, 1955 which were subject to the deflationary impacts, as shown in Table 2.

The hike of the Company's sales has been largely due to rising demands in automobile and machinery industries, as shown in Table 3.

3. NIPPON SEIKO'S SALES BY CUSTOMER

Customers	Term ended October, 1956 (%)	Term ended April, 1956 (%)
Automobiles	37	38
Electric machinery	17	15
Textiles	14	11
Industrial machines	11	10
Rolling stock	5	7
Iron-steel, light metals	3	3
Shipbuilding	2	2
Agriculture, forestry, fisheries	2	2
Exports	2	4
Others	7	8
Total	100	100

The sales for the half-year term ended April, 1957 are estimated to leap to about ¥3,500 million due to the increase in new orders received. Although the production cost has apparently risen in recent months due to the hike of the prices of special steels used, the increasing sales on the strength of the boosted production are expected to enable the Company to reap the profits well reaching ¥350 million for the term under review. The Company has been noted for its "ultra-steady" management with high percentages of profits kept as internal reserves. Its external debts on the other hand are comparatively smaller than those of other machinery manufacturers. As of November, 1956, the Company doubled its capital to ¥800 million. Despite the increasing impact of the capital expansion, the Company, with the profits estimated at ¥350 million, may easily be able to register the profit rate against the average paid-up capital well reaching 85%.

With the dividend rate for the term ended April due to be reduced to 15% (as compared with the 20% dividend plus a 10% special dividend commemorating the founding of the Company for the preceding term) under the provisions of the Capital Replenishment Law, the Company is expected to continue well stabilized financially. With the domestic supply of bearings expected to be well increased by this autumn when production increase plans of leading bearing makers get completed, Nippon Seiko understoodly is studying positive measures to boost its bearing exports. The distribution of Nippon Seiko's shares as of October 31, 1956 stood as follows: monetary organs, 32.6%; securities merchants, 9.4%; other corporations, 0.6%; foreigners, 0.2%; and individual shareholders, 57.2%.

Azuma Kako Co., Ltd.

Azuma Kako is the largest manufacturer of ferro-alloys in Japan, noted for a wide variety of its specialities including ferro-manganese, silico-manganese, ferro-chrome, calcium-silicon, spiegeleisen, ferro-molybdenum, etc. The Company is also engaged in the manufacture of silico-calcium and manganese fertilizers as by-products in the process of ferromanganese production.

Azuma Kako was originally inaugurated in 1917 under the name of Hokkai Denka Kogyo to engage in the production of carbide, calcium cyanamide and ammonium sulphate. It was in 1936 that the Company embarked upon the manufacture of ferro-alloys, and its production scale was sharply expanded during the Pacific War. For a short while after the war's termina-

tion, the Company became engaged in the manufacture of carbide and other chemicals but has come to devote itself again to ferro-alloy items in recent years to the suspension of its carbide department. It was in 1951 that the Company changed to the present name. The Company has easy access of electric power and harbor facilities, as its Takaoka factory is located in Toyama Prefecture where water power resources are particularly abundant. The Company has its own power plant in the same prefecture. It is also partly self-supplied in manganese ore, one of cardinal raw materials for its production. Business results of the Company have improved especially in these few years on the spur of a phenomenal boom in the iron-steel industry since 1956. With the international and domestic demands for ferro-alloys sharply swinging up since 1956, the Company has been receiving a rush of inquiries from domestic clients as well as overseas customers including the United States (best customer by far), Britain, Argentina and West Germany. As shown in Table 1, the production and sales of the Company have been on the notable upgrade and the profits have been gaining on the strength of the stiffened market.

1. RECENT PRODUCTION & SALES

(In million yen)

	Term Ended June, 1955	Term Ended Dec., 1955	Term Ended June, 1956	Term Ended Dec., 1956
Production	846	999	1,074	1,388
Sales	811	1,007	1,133	1,364
Domestic	535	554	686	967
Exports	276	453	447	397

2. RECENT BUSINESS SHOWINGS

Terms Ended	Sales	Profits	Profit Rates (%)	Dividend Rates (%)
	million yen			
Dec., 1955	1,007	20	20	12
June, 1956	1,133	26	22	12
Dec., 1956	1,364	65	26	12

The remarkable fact in this connection is that the ferro-alloys produced in Azuma Kako's factories are increasingly exported to such highly industrialized countries as the United States and West Germany. The Company's expansion and modernization programs, which are estimated to cost about ¥1,400 million, call for the erection of two sets of large-type (7,500 KVA) electric furnaces and a set of large-type (15,000 KVA) closed electric oven as well as the modernization of an electrode factory. Of the new equipments, the first 7,500 KVA electric furnace was completed in the autumn of 1956 while the second is due to be ready for operation in July, this year. On the other hand, the closed electric oven will be ready for running from November, this year. All these new additions will be mobilized for the production increase of silico-manganese and ferro-manganese. With the completion and operation of these new facilities, the annual production capacity of the Company will be boosted from the present ¥4,000 million to ¥5,500 million. In parallel, the production costs will be curtailed comfortably. Particularly noteworthy is the fact that the proposed closed electric oven is the first attempt in Japanese ferro-alloy circles and one of a few ventures of the kind in the world. Upon the completion of equipment-bolstering operations now under way and chiefly directed towards silico-and ferro-manganese production boosts, the Company is reported ready to increase the outputs of ferro-chrome and ferro-molybdenum and to embark upon the manufacture of ferro-silicon to consolidate its front as the largest ferro-alloys manufacturer in this country. Under the impact of deflationary depression from 1953 through 1954, the Japanese iron-steel industry was extremely lethargic, and ferro-alloy companies, largely dependent on the iron-steel industry, also remained depressed. This company, no exception to the general situation, fared ill temporarily and was forced to pass dividends. Business results of the Company, however, began to pick up from about 1955 and its profits started to increase in the term ended December in that year, enabling it to revive a 12% dividend. With the iron-steel boom, both at home and abroad, continuing in swing since, the Company has also kept on registering fair results. The Company's sales for the term ended June, this year, are estimated to aggregate some ¥1,500 million. Meanwhile, extremely brisk domestic demands have encroached on the export capacity of the Company and the exports for the term under review are expected to dwindle to about ¥300,000,000. The prices of manufactured products, on the gain without a break for some time, will sufficiently cover the recent boost of the material ores prices. Taking all these favorable factors into account, the profits after depreciation for the current term (ended June) are estimated to leap to ¥140,000,000–150,000,000. Meanwhile, the Company in the autumn of 1956, doubled the capital to ¥800 million, but the fair business showing will enable it to continue the 12% dividend for the current term.

The future business prospects of the Company appear encouraging, as the effects of the equipment expansion-modernization plans are expected to become manifest from the next term and the sales for the second-half of the current year may well top ¥2,000 million. For further plant-equipment investments, the Company is likely to be called upon to boost capital again in 1958.

With the current price of the Company's share registering at ¥73.00 (¥50.00 paid up), the yield for the 12.00% dividend stands at 8.2%, an acceptably fair object of investment for traders.

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Book Review

Bonsai—Miniature Potted Trees

by Norio Kobayashi

Japan Travel Bureau, Tokyo, 1957

pp. 177. *U.S. Price $3.00 ¥500.*

One learns to one's cost how out of luck one always is when one tries to find, for instance, a concise book on drama *ab origine* to the latest development. Luckily, such hard luck will not befall anyone who seeks a handy volume on representative topics concerning many traditionally cultivated features of things Japanese. Japan Travel Bureau's Tourist Library is the answer.

Its No. 13. volume in a new chic format with vividly colored cover, impresses the reader with its compact yet well chosen topics on Bonsai, "an art of cultivating a plant in a pot." Open any page of the volume, and such apt and elegant illustrations of bonsai examples as *Tokaede* (Trident Maple) (In Colors), *Higan-zakura* (Drooping Cherry) (In Color), *Hinoki* (Hinoki Cypress), *Shimpaku* (Chinese Juniper) and about 80 others catch one's eye.

Delightful technical tidbits such as *Use of Stones for Effect, Methods of Transportation, Watering, Fertilizers and Pruning,* as well as a short note on the history of Bonsai are included.

"I remember once seeing M. Claudel, who was one time French Ambassador to Japan, seated upright and lost in deep contemplation, in front of a maple tree treated as a bonsai. 'Looking at this deciduous tree,' he explained, when asked why, 'I cannot help imagining myself in a maple grove. I feel as if I were hearing the chirrups of birds in the boughs.' These words expressed his sentiments on that occasion. Like the poet that he was, he expressed an aesthetic appreciation of a bonsai."

So writes Mr. Kobayashi and the passage typically bespeaks his enjoyable way of describing the art. (*M.K.*)

The Art and Architecture of Japan

(*The Pelican History of Art*)

by Robert T. Paine and Alexander Soper

Penguin Books, Harmondsworth, 1956. *pp. 316. 45s.*

The volume is a new source of delight to me since I have been acutely conscious of dearth of books in foreign languages in order to introduce the formative arts of Japan. The job of editing books of this sort entails a Herculian task to foreigners. The authors who accomplished the task certainly merit an Order of Cultural Merits for introducing Japanese culture to foreigners.

In a series, the treatment of subjects generally tends to cram too many phases of the subjects in one volume. Consequently, results are often dry and wooden. The present volume is not an exception in this respect, but it is better than those of the ordinary run. It comes in handy for a foreigner who needs an introductory guide to Japan's formative arts.

Many of the pictures illustrating the book have been borrowed from Japanese books treating the subject and edited in Japan. Speaking frankly, I cannot help feeling the monotonous rhythm in the arrangement of pictures. Some of the many pictures ought to have been twice the present size. Some others, on the other hand, ought to have occupied half the space allocated. Masterpieces of pictorial art should also be reproduced in their appropriate proportions. Unfortunately, some of the *chefs-d'oeuvre* illustrating the present book have lost considerable portion of their merits in the somewhat misleading sizes in which they are shown. Many pictures would have done much better in colors instead of merely in black and white.

The architecture of *chashitsu*, tea-houses, and the gardens which accompany them, form the cream of Japanese architecture. The description and illustrations of them are given rather insufficiently. The genius of Japanese architecture is expressed in *chashitsu* and their gardens. They formed the quintessence of traditional Japanese architecture which greatly influenced modern Japanese architecture and the new trends in architecture abroads. A sufficient treatment of this important phase of Japanese architecture would have saved the volume's banality that arises from talking about temples and pagodas. This was perhaps one of those shortcomings that almost inevitably leave foreign scholars wide of the mark in their attempts to edit a series of volumes on the histories of other countries.

In Europe, people talk about the Orient as if it were one homogeneous lump of area. Often they forget to make necessary distinctions between China, Japan and Korea. They are unable to distinguish a Chinese from a Japanese or a Korean when they meet one. From a great distance, one often sees two almost overlapping poles which are in reality quite far apart. Such is often the case with one's idea about other remote countries.

A comparison between *The Art and Architecture of China* (another of *The Pelican History of Art*) and *The Art and Architecture of Japan* somewhat disappointed me for this reason. It seems to me that there is some levity in treating the Orient without alert care for distinguishing the different parts of the vast area. Similarly, most Japanese find it difficult to distinguish a Frenchman from an Englishman and they tend to take them into the same category of Europeans. The error of this sort is only too common and that error seems to have appeared in the present volume.

Despite the unbalance caused by the overemphasis on Buddhist influence (which probably is due to the author's specialization) and the neglect in the development of modern Japanese architecture which was based on the *chashitsu* architecture and the gardens created by traditional masters, and despite the lack of careful distinctions between China and Japan, the present work is most invaluable to foreigners who want to study the art and architecture of Japan. I appreciate the authors's tremendous efforts. (*M. Machida.*)

A Revision of Demand Theory

by J. R. Hicks

Oxford University Press, London, 1956.

pp. 196 18s.

Prof. Hicks's logical dexterity on the theory of utility and consumers' choice proceeds in the present volume which is the revision of the first three chapters of *Value and Capital* from the very foundations of the theory to the Index-Number Theorem of the general theory of demand. Elaborately and yet clearly, the author's argument runs through section by section the three parts of the book: FOUNDATIONS, THE DEMAND FOR A SINGLE COMMODITY and THE GENERAL THEORY OF DEMAND.

Discussing the recondite topic of consumer's surplus, *Summary and Conclusion*, the final part of the volume, ends with the author's note "But the results which can be got from using it, and the evaluation of those results, have not been our concern here. I hope to have more to say about them on another occasion, but I shall then approach them from a 'different, and a wider, point of view," Admittedly, economic theories are tools to analyse economic data. But, regrettably, one has to listen to brilliant arguments about tools how they are sharp or dull, waiting forever to hear how they can actually cut.

The reader, if he has a turn of mind which Lancelot Hogben and Stuart Chase share, will not only be impressed by the author's marvelous processes of reasoning, but also become anxious to push forward the state of affairs in economics in the direction towards which science as applied to physics or biology has progressed. (*M.K.*)

1. Business Indices

Year & Month	Treasury Accounts with the Public (2) (Fiscal year) (In 100 million yen)	Bank of Japan Account (1) (In 100 million yen)		Monthly Report of All Banks (1) (In 100 million yen)		Tokyo Stock Prices (3)		
		Note issues	Loans	Deposits	Advances	Dow Jones Average (yen)	Turnovers (In million issues)	Interest Yield (%)
1952 av.	24	5,764	2,232	22,238	21,280	245.67	2,002.6	9.85
1953 ,,	951	6,298	2,987	27,076	26,712	390.90	2,091.5	7.44
1954 ,,	↔ 1,900	6,220	2,433	30,366	29,119	340.79	1,238.5	9.44
1955 ,,	↔ 2,766	6,738	319	37,243	31,958	374.00	2,505.3	7.96
1956 ,,	1,634	7,849	1,399	47,634	40,657	485.33	6,692.4	6.68
1956: August	398	5,924	926	41,683	35,635	502.03	417.2	6.69
September	↔ 51	5,995	913	44,258	37,208	487.24	323.2	7.25
October	↔ 333	6,110	756	43,635	37,219	496.19	540.3	7.25
November	↔ 213	6,260	711	45,237	38,418	532.76	1,053.0	6.66
December	↔ 870	7,849	1,399	47,634	40,657	554.72	668.9	6.77
1957: January	1,409	6,765	1,661	46,812	40,834	572.80	976.9	6.47
February	958	6,586	2,415	47,021	41,575	573.99	751.1	6.44
March	246	6,662	2,764	49,714	43,021	567.73	710.8	6.37

Year & Month	Tokyo Wholesale Price Indices (1) Total Average		Tokyo Retail Price Indices (1) Total Average 1952=100	Export & Import Price Indices (1) (July, 1949-June, 1950=100)		Cost of Living Tokyo (4) (Nov., 1946=100)	Consumer Price Indices (1951=100) (5)	
	1952=100	1934-1936 =100		Exports	Imports		Tokyo	All Cities
1952 av.	100.0	34,921.5	100.0	134.9	122.1	681.9	104.2	105.0
1953 ,,	100.4	35,157.3	103.5	127.9	110.1	782.1	112.0	111.9
1954 ,,	99.7	34,920.8	106.9	123.0	105.7	850.2	118.1	119.1
1955 ,,	97.9	34,293.1	102.4	123.5	106.5	847.4	116.4	117.8
1956 ,,	102.2	▲ 35,793.8	102.1	128.9	104.5	832.3	117.5	118.4
1956: August	102.8	36,015.7	103.3	128.3	103.9	832.1	116.5	118.4
September	104.7	36,681.3	102.6	129.6	103.4	820.3	117.2	118.5
October	104.5	36,611.3	102.7	130.0	103.4	828.2	118.4	119.4
November	105.6	36,996.6	101.7	130.9	105.1	825.8	117.7	118.5
December	106.4	37,276.9	101.5	131.8	106.4	827.4	118.9	120.1
1957: January	106.7	37,382.0	102.3	130.9	107.3	847.0	119.8	121.3
February	106.6	37,347.0	▲ 102.4	130.5	107.4	860.3	119.4	121.5
March	106.6	37,347.0	104.1	..	..	868.9	120.6	..

Year & Month	Consumption Level (6) (1934-1936=100)			Manufacturing Industry Wages (7) (1934-6=100)		Employment Indices for Mfg. Industries (7) (1947=100)	Number of Unemployed (5) (In 10,000)	E.P.B. Indices (6) (1934-6=100)		Mining-Manufacturing Indices (1950=100) (8)	Producers' Shipments Indices (Mining) (1950=100) (8)
	Total	Urban	Non-Urban	Nominal (Yen)	Real (Indices)			Business Activity Indices	Mining Manufacturing		
1952	94.8	80.2	116.6	13,516	102.3	107.7	47	131.8	126.4	146.5	140.7
1953	105.6	94.0	123.0	15,322	107.3	112.7	45	161.2	155.1	170.0	164.7
1954	111.0	100.0	127.5	16,309	108.0	118.2	58	173.5	166.9	185.6	172.6
1955	115.1	106.5	128.1	16,717	114.5	116.6	68	187.9	180.7	204.5	188.1
1956	118.3	109.4	131.7	18,348	125.5	121.4	64	227.4	219.1	▲ 248.0	226.2
1956: July	120.8	123.3	117.1	22,214	152.6	122.6	57	227.5	219.3	251.3	227.2
August	111.9	98.1	132.5	16,647	116.6	122.9	57	228.1	220.2	250.4	231.8
September	107.4	99.0	120.0	16,055	112.6	123.5	56	232.9	224.9	257.9	241.4
October	111.8	101.1	127.9	16,179	111.6	123.8	51	233.6	225.1	263.2	244.6
November	115.3	104.7	131.3	16,692	116.3	123.9	53	241.1	232.5	268.9	247.0
December	174.1	167.8	183.6	33,407	214.3	124.2	56	249.1	239.7	274.0	▲ 253.7
1957: January	..	102.2	..	16,652	112.0	124.1	57	▲ 226.9	▲ 217.7	256.5	226.2
February	..	105.5	..	16,433	..	..	61	232.4	223.8	266.0	251.6

Year & Month	Material Stock Indices (Manufacturing) (1950=100) (8)	Producer's Stock Indices Mining Mfg. Total (8)	Seller's Stock Indices (8)	Car-loadings (9)	Department Store Sales (8)	Foreign Trade (2) (In $1,000)			Foreign Trade Volume Indices (1934-6=100) (2)		Foreign Exchange (1) (In $1,000)	
		1950=100	1950=100	Indices 1941=100		Exports	Imports	Balance	Exports	Imports	Received	Paid
1952	145.4	121.3	85.5	103.3	15,108.9	1,272,915	2,028,193	△ 755,278	92.4	73.6	2,239,127	1,924,815
1953	164.7	120.2	96.1	105.7	19,818.1	1,274,843	2,409,637	△1,134,795	100.0	100.0	2,120,037	2,313,716
1954	165.7	155.5	109.2	105.6	22,193.7	1,629,236	2,399,404	△ 770,168	133.3	103.6	2,309,264	2,209,296
1955	155.3	144.4	113.6	105.9	23,668.9	2,010,600	2,471,430	△ 460,831	174.1	108.9	2,667,645	2,173,846
1956	▲ 190.7	▲ 134.4	128.2	113.4	28,867.2	2,500,626	3,229,734	△ 729,098	207.9	138.2	3,224,763	2,931,429
1956: August	208.7	135.6	143.4	118.3	23,837.8	215,809	289,389	△ 73,580	212.3	147.4	282,587	283,071
September	214.3	134.1	141.8	119.3	20,936.3	205,193	258,986	△ 53,791	202.3	130.0	256,807	237,945
October	229.1	136.1	140.8	120.3	27,932.6	233,810	304,772	△ 70,963	231.9	154.5	289,362	264,048
November	212.3	141.0	138.2	116.6	31,475.4	216,061	281,994	△ 65,933	213.0	140.5	269,821	269,289
December	▲ 216.3	▲ 141.7	126.2	110.3	70,340.7	271,772	318,539	△ 46,767	265.1	156.8	286,190	274,081
1957: January	218.7	143.0	126.6	120.5	23,049.0	169,006	327,975	△ 158,969	..	..	284,689	298,770
February	220.5	144.4	..	121.2	..	213,253	344,161	△ 130,908	..	..	276,667	339,879
March	..	..	..	..	..	274,328	393,022	△ 118,694	..	..	299,754	354,027

Notes: △ in Foreign Trade means excess in import. ▲ Revised at source.

Sources: (1) Bank of Japan. (2) Ministry of Finance. (3) Tokyo Securities Exchange. (4) The Oriental Economist. (5) Statistics Bureau, Prime Minister's Office. (6) Economic Planning Board (7) Ministry of Labor. (8) MITI. (9) Ministry of Transportation

2. Treasury Accounts with the Public

(In ¥100,000,000) (Ministry of Finance.)

Items	Fiscal 1956										Fiscal 1955
	Apr.–June	July–Sept.	Nov.	Dec.	Oct.–Dec.	Jan. 1957	Feb. 1957	Mar. 1957	Jan.–Mar.	Total	Total
General Account											
Revenue											
Taxes	2,002	2,216	600	1,191	2,383	843	721	1,052	2,616	9,217	7,733
Monopoly	336	255	38	82	155	56	85	113	254	1,000	964
Others	163	97	32	75	150	26	30	78	134	546	378
Total	2,501	2,570	670	1,348	2,688	925	826	1,243	3,004	10,763	9,075
Expenditure											
Defense Expenditure	118	108	12	30	129	84	16	56	156	511	601
Defense Board	267	158	70	123	250	49	66	82	197	872	688
Public Works Expenditure	340	250	93	254	446	27	52	183	262	1,298	1,316
Local Finance Equalization Grants	748	460	359	22	416	41	—	217	258	1,882	1,825
Compulsory Education Expenditure	191	166	124	7	238	107	2	49	158	753	742
Others	925	698	252	521	1,053	186	247	337	770	3,446	3,288
Total	2,689	1,840	910	957	2,532	494	383	924	1,801	8,762	8,460
Balance	△ 88	730	△ 240	391	156	431	453	319	1,203	2,001	615
Special Accounts and Others											
Foodstuff Control	580	△ 401	△ 112	△ 612	△ 1,024	308	258	278	844	△ 1	△ 1,068
Trust Fund Bureau	△ 200	△ 82	2	△ 231	△ 283	△ 16	△ 4	△ 407	△ 427	△ 992	△ 305
Industrial Investment	28	43	△ 15	9	△ 22	△ 13	—	66	53	102	△ 22
National Railways and Nippon Telegraph & Tel. Public Corporation	147	△ 16	16	△ 196	△ 120	121	2	△ 142	△ 19	△ 8	126
Finance Corporation	△ 157	△ 176	△ 71	△ 147	△ 280	△ 55	△ 58	△ 108	△ 221	△ 834	△ 624
Others	△ 28	267	160	△ 13	121	310	151	78	539	899	108
Total	370	△ 265	△ 20	△ 1,190	△ 1,608	655	349	△ 235	769	△ 834	△ 1,775
Adjustment Items	△ 94	△ 1	△ 31	11	49	94	△ 68	△ 147	△ 121	△ 167	93
Foreign Exchange	△ 94	△ 21	78	△ 82	△ 13	229	224	309	762	634	△ 1,699
Balance	94	343	△ 213	△ 870	△ 1,416	1,409	958	246	2,613	1,634	△ 2,766

3. Monthly Report of All Banks

(January, 1957: Excluding Bank of Japan)

(In million yen) (Bank of Japan)

	All Banks						Trust Account (17)
	Debenture Issuing Banks (2)	City Banks (13)	Local Banks (65)	Trust Banks (6)	Total (86)	Leftover from Pre. mo.	
Deposits							
Current Deposits	11,525	719,591	143,199	38,949	913,265	653,644	—
Ordinary Deposits	7,685	558,865	345,112	17,545	929,209	768,786	—
Deposits at Notice	20,965	210,512	50,404	21,028	302,910	255,074	—
Time Deposits	10,299	1,278,678	723,655	35,436	2,048,070	1,590,553	—
Special Deposits	5,730	154,503	41,123	7,874	209,232	128,163	—
Instalment Savings	—	26,516	98,474	409	135,401	126,492	—
Deposits for Tax Payment	277	6,096	2,603	382	9,359	8,456	—
Deposits of Gov't and Gov't Agencies	1,350	131,735	—	—	133,085	118,169	*167,043
Other Deposits	—	747	—	—	747	627	**162,452
Total	57,833	3,097,247	1,404,574	121,626	4,681,282	3,649,970	—
Borrowed Money	12,925	210,460	1,167	3,004	227,557	77,244	—
Borrowings for Settlement of Import Bills	650	45,026	—	125	45,803	916	—
Call Money	1,727	107,576	10,733	15,610	135,647	89,398	—
Cash and Deposits							
Cash in Hand	11,631	562,450	92,179	24,755	691,016	462,007	2,337
Deposits with Domestic Money Organs	121	5,231	18,870	2,323	26,547	40,413	1,824
Call Loans	7,824	8,818	37,786	2,043	56,471	50,230	22,685
Securities							
Government Bonds	1,741	37,708	10,988	814	51,252	62,423	106
Local Government Bonds	2,098	27,665	27,152	335	57,251	30,550	1,635
Foreign Bonds	—	2,523	—	—	2,523	2,862	9
Corporate Debentures	11,675	252,440	189,101	6,449	459,668	373,469	3,206
Stocks	10,708	66,333	23,285	4,209	104,536	57,292	2,499
Other Bonds	314	279	1,276	1,254	3,125	1,313	23
Total	26,538	386,951	251,805	13,063	678,358	527,911	7,482
Advance							
Discount Bills	12,541	933,671	326,141	63,473	1,335,827	1,073,067	18,248
Bank Acceptance Bills	—	993	13,753	114	14,861	34,693	—
Commercial Bills	12,541	931,434	310,726	63,351	1,318,064	1,035,978	—
Documentary Bills	—	1,243	1,651	6	2,901	2,395	—
Advances against Guarantee	374,131	1,445,735	794,742	54,977	2,669,588	2,029,807	280,538
Loans on Bills	67,238	1,389,487	744,440	53,780	2,254,946	1,700,801	101,692
Loans on Deeds	306,833	17,468	38,468	881	363,651	305,646	51,977
Overdrafts	59	38,780	11,834	316	50,990	23,260	—
Loans for Settlement of Import Bills	1,290	74,393	1,246	1,226	78,156	57,440	—
Total	387,963	2,453,800	1,122,130	119,677	4,083,572	3,160,315	298,786

Note: △ Means excess of payment. * Money in trust total. ** Loan trust.

4. Bank of Japan Ten-day Report

(In million yen) (Bank of Japan)

Items	1957			1956
	Mar. 10	Mar. 20	Mar. 31	Mar. 31
LIABILITIES				
Bank Notes Issued	612,215	607,587	666,208	574,754
Bankers' Deposits	5,060	6,110	11,625	7,393
Government Deposits	43,874	52,495	236,875	138,224
Other Deposits	26,934	26,907	23,688	25,625
Inter-Bank Remittance Deposits	—	—	—	22,687
Reserves Against Contingencies	28,098	28,098	31,208	26,908
Other Liabilities	52,394	53,226	52,662	43,351
Capital Stock	100	100	100	100
Reserve Funds	15,226	15,226	15,236	13,473
Total	783,914	789,823	1,037,606	852,520
ASSETS				
Bullion	447	447	447	447
Cash	3,348	3,607	3,669	3,832
Discounted Bills	35,194	39,939	42,614	7,970
Loans	229,880	227,987	233,775	19,332
Foreign Exchange Loans	2,257	1,568	1,538	9,970
Advances to Government	—	—	850	900
Government Bonds	281,522	280,321	509,981	561,330
Foreign Ex. Accounts	179,710	179,851	179,888	178,020
Inter-Bank Remittance	—	—	—	21,233
Agencies Accounts	10,193	15,221	19,872	15,614
Other Assets	41,360	40,878	44,967	33,687
Total	783,914	789,823	1,037,606	852,520

5. Outstanding Loans to Industries by All Banks

(In million yen) (Bank of Japan)

End of Month	November, 1956			December, 1956		
	Loans Total	For Equipments	For Co. of ¥10 Million or less	Loans Total	For Equipments	For Co. of ¥10 Million or less
Manufacturing total	1,781,307	174,123	571,273	1,895,250	186,827	604,305
Foodstuffs	182,847	9,098	94,652	200,261	9,985	103,971
Textiles	423,049	36,066	170,022	437,210	38,225	169,986
Wood and Wood Products	70,251	1,646	59,265	74,793	1,711	62,830
Paper & Related Products	100,664	12,540	18,980	106,609	13,123	20,371
Printing & Publishing	38,356	4,092	14,752	41,924	4,670	16,219
Chemicals	210,798	31,233	31,039	222,730	34,266	32,428
Glass & Ceramics	61,523	12,241	13,742	64,381	13,177	14,619
Primary Metals	208,908	33,866	25,234	221,219	36,039	27,082
Machinery	85,520	4,543	39,014	94,346	4,984	43,005
Electric Machinery & Tools	120,661	10,007	15,720	129,122	10,592	17,500
Trans. Machinery & Tools	116,287	8,445	17,560	128,255	8,619	18,931
Agriculture	10,430	505	10,110	9,948	494	9,611
Forestry & Hunting	9,740	47	8,005	10,899	54	8,919
Fishery	50,717	16,394	18,263	51,111	16,409	18,796
Mining	91,042	17,022	12,535	97,459	17,040	13,258
Metal Mining	16,459	3,836	716	17,896	3,713	791
Coal Mining	63,790	10,636	8,786	68,401	10,894	9,289
Construction	83,712	1,061	37,765	89,939	1,063	39,760
Wholesale & Retail	1,202,487	13,525	633,597	1,261,018	13,928	666,401
Wholesale	1,095,421	7,564	556,282	1,149,841	7,899	583,498
Retail	107,066	5,961	77,315	111,177	6,028	82,902
Finance Insurance	64,810	76	9,339	72,055	74	9,995
Real Estate	21,999	9,117	8,815	23,661	9,194	9,779
Trans. & Public Utilities	307,781	215,976	21,825	323,215	219,326	23,999
Railways	27,955	12,400	168	30,812	13,196	168
Shipping	98,613	65,135	8,054	105,854	66,638	9,059
Electric	117,048	115,501	43	118,218	116,221	44
Services	69,406	18,013	48,635	78,529	20,105	54,968
Local Public Corporation	53,996	18,683	—	57,629	18,960	—
Others	47,497	2,444	47,294	50,150	2,662	49,950
Total	3,794,932	486,994	1,427,461	4,020,870	506,143	1,509,748

6. Bank of Japan Official Interest Rates

(In sen per diem per ¥100)**

Revised on	Commercial Bills	Against Gov't Bonds *	Advance Against Securities other than Gov't Bonds	Overdraft
1936: Apr. 7	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.3
1937: July 15	0.9	0.9	1.1	1.2
Sept. 21	0.9	0.9	1.1	1.1
1941: July 21	0.9	0.9	1.1	1.0
1944: Apr. 4	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0
1945: Nov. 1	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.1
1946: Apr. 9	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.3
Oct. 14	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.4
1948: Apr. 26	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.7
July 5	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.9
1951: Oct. 1	1.6	1.7	1.8	2.1
1955: Aug. 10	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.3
1957: Mar. 20	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.4

7. Interest Rates for Advances by Member Banks

(In sen per diem per ¥100) (Tokyo Banking Assoc.)

Year & Month	Loans on Deeds		Loans on Bills		Overdraft		Discount Bills	
	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low
1956:								
June	3.20	2.40	3.10	1.80	3.00	1.90	3.00	1.90
July	3.20	2.40	3.20	1.80	3.00	1.80	3.00	1.90
Aug.	3.20	2.40	3.20	1.80	3.00	1.80	3.00	1.90
Sept.	3.20	2.40	3.20	1.80	3.00	1.80	3.00	1.90
Oct.	3.20	2.40	3.10	1.80	3.00	1.80	3.00	1.90
Nov.	3.20	2.40	3.10	1.80	3.00	1.80	3.00	1.90
Dec.	3.20	2.40	3.10	1.80	3.00	1.80	3.00	1.90
1957:								
Jan.	3.20	2.40	3.10	1.80	3.00	1.80	3.00	1.90
Feb.	3.20	2.40	3.10	1.80	3.00	1.80	3.00	1.90
1956:								
Feb.	3.30	2.60	3.20	1.80	3.00	2.00	3.20	2.00

8. Tokyo-Osaka Call-Money and Its Rates

(Bank of Japan)

Year & Month	Tokyo			Osaka		
	Rate		Balance at the End of the Month (million yen)	Rate		Balance at the End of the Month (million yen)
	Over-Month-End (sen)	Unconditional (sen)		Over-Month-End (sen)	Unconditional (sen)	
1956: Aug.	2.30	2.10	59,175	2.35	2.15	21,625
Sept.	2.35	2.00	54,523	2.35	2.00	21,330
Oct.	2.05	2.10	65,529	2.10	2.00	23,961
Nov.	2.05	1.80	81,560	2.05	1.80	27,358
Dec.	2.50	2.50	67,722	2.50	2.50	23,460
1957: Jan.	2.30	2.00	70,797	2.35	2.00	25,430
Feb.	2.70	2.60	70,751	2.65	2.60	26,721
1956: Feb.	1.65	1.40	59,316	1.70	1.50	23,571

9. Interest Rates of City Bank Deposits

(In sen per diem per ¥100) (Bank of Japan)

Enforced on	Time Deposits (%)			Current Deposits	Ordinary Deposits	Deposits at Call	Other Deposit
	Three Months	Six Months	One Year				
1940: Feb. A	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1940: Feb. B	—	3.4	—	—	—	—	—
1944: July	—	3.3	—	0	0.5	0.6	0.6
1947: June	3.3	3.5	3.6	0	0.5	0.6	0.6
1948: Jan.	3.7	4.0	4.2	0	0.5	0.6	0.6
July	3.8	4.2	4.4	0	0.5	0.6	0.6
1949: Aug.	3.8	4.4	4.7	0	0.5	0.6	0.6
1951: Jan.	3.8	4.6	5.0	0	0.5	0.6	0.6
May	3.8	5.0	5.5	0	0.5	0.6	0.6
Sept.	4.0	5.0	6.0	0	0.6	0.7	0.7

Notes: △ includes foreign trade bills. * includes stamp bills, foreign trade bills, etc. from Oct. 14, 1946; and from June 1949 includes financial and other preferential debentures. ** HOW TO COMPUTE PER DIEM INTEREST:—In addition to the usual annual rate in percentage, computing interest by per diem rates is widely in use in Japan. This rate is expressed in sen (1/100 yen) as interest per day on ¥100 of principal. To find the usual annual rate from the per diem rate multiply the latter by 365. For example, a diem rate of 1.0 sen on a principal ¥100 gives an interest of 365 sen or ¥3.65 per year or 3.65% per annum.

10. Bank Clearings

(In billion yen)

(Tokyo Clearing House)

Year & Month	All Clearing Houses		Tokyo		Osaka	
	No. of Bills	Amount	No. of Bills	Amount	No. of Bills	Amount
	(1,000)		(1,000)		(1,000)	
1956: June	13,049	3,215	5,179	1,494	2,598	768
July	12,413	3,232	5,080	1,493	2,465	770
Aug.	12,134	3,374	4,818	1,543	2,480	810
Sept.	11,520	3,457	4,628	1,591	2,346	838
Oct.	13,014	3,779	5,178	1,727	2,641	902
Nov.	12,511	3,599	4,995	1,599	2,544	872
Dec.	16,361	4,718	6,466	2,068	3,314	1,137
1957: Jan.	11,108	3,460	4,427	1,561	2,146	785
1956: Jan.	9,125	2,557	3,641	1,167	1,764	608

Note: ▲ Revised at source.

11. Average Yields of Debentures

(Industrial Bank of Japan)

Month	Gov't Bonds	Financial Debenture		Industrial Debenture
		Interest Bearing	Discount	
	%	%	%	%
1956: June	6.324	7.411	6.224	7.644
July	—	7.411	6.224	7.918
Aug.	6.362	7.204	6.224	7.410
Sept.	6.324	7.204	6.224	7.380
Oct.	6.331	7.204	6.224	7.372
Nov.	—	7.204	6.224	▲ 7.362
Dec.	6.342	7.204	6.224	▲ 7.388
1957: Jan.	—	7.204	6.224	7.361
1956: Jan.	—	7.918	6.643	8.256

12. Tokyo Wholesale Price Indices

(1952=100)

(Bank of Japan)

Year & Month	Total Average	Agricultural Produc	Textiles	Fuels	Metal & Machinery	Building Materials	Chemical Products	Sundries	By Uses		
									Producer's Goods	Capital Goods	Consumer's Goods
1956 Average	102.2	104.0	87.1	104.8	110.3	122.2	86.5	92.2	104.0	115.6	99.7
1956: December	106.4	106.8	87.3	111.6	119.2	130.6	87.0	93.1	108.7	124.5	103.4
1957: January	106.7	106.5	86.6	112.9	119.0	133.1	87.7	92.8	109.3	125.7	103.3
February	106.6	105.7	86.0	112.1	118.8	135.9	88.1	93.3	109.6	126.7	102.7
March	106.6	105.8	84.2	112.4	118.6	137.8	88.3	94.2	109.6	127.1	102.6
1956: March	99.6	..	86.5	104.8	103.1	113.8	86.5	91.9	100.4	108.5	98.5

13. Tokyo Retail Price Indices

(1952=100)

(Bank of Japan)

Year & Month	Total Average	Agricultural Products	Textile Products	Metal Products	Wood Products	Fuel	Miscellaneous	*Total Average	Total Average (1934-6=100)
1956 Average	102.1	109.5	88.0	98.3	102.0	111.0	94.1	98.8	30,669.4
1956: November	101.7	107.7	89.0	100.0	102.1	115.1	94.9	99.3	30,559.2
December	101.5	106.8	89.1	100.0	102.1	121.1	96.1	99.9	30,499.1
1957: January	102.3	108.2	89.0	99.6	103.7	131.9	94.7	100.1	30,739.5
February	102.4	108.0	90.0	99.2	105.0	128.7	95.2	100.5	30,769.6
March	104.1	110.8	90.2	99.1	106.5	127.8	96.1	100.9	31,280.4
1956: March	102.3	110.7	86.6	97.4	102.0	110.3	93.7	98.5	30,739.5

Note: * except perishable vegetables.

14. Consumer Price Indices

(1951=100)

(Bureau of Statistics, Prime Minister's Office)

		Total Average	Food	Staple Food	Nonstaple Food	Clothing	Light & Fuel	Housing	Miscellaneous
All Cities	1956 Average	118.4	113.9	124.0	107.5	83.1	137.8	145.8	143.1
	1956: October	119.4	114.8	124.0	108.9	83.3	139.4	150.2	144.1
	November	118.5	113.0	123.9	106.2	83.4	141.3	150.6	143.7
	December	120.1	115.3	123.6	110.1	83.5	145.0	151.2	144.2
	1957: January	121.3	116.6	123.8	112.0	83.5	152.1	151.6	144.7
	February	121.5	117.3	124.2	113.1	83.5	151.1	151.8	143.8
	1956: February	117.4	113.7	123.9	107.4	81.9	138.1	139.5	140.6
Tokyo	1956 Average	117.5	112.4	121.2	107.8	82.4	138.6	142.2	141.6
	1956: November	117.7	112.1	120.9	107.5	83.1	140.0	145.1	142.0
	December	118.9	113.7	120.7	110.0	83.0	142.9	145.3	142.7
	1957: January	119.8	114.7	120.9	111.4	82.9	150.2	145.5	142.7
	February	119.4	114.4	121.1	110.9	82.7	148.4	145.0	142.2
	March	120.6	116.6	121.5	114.1	82.7	146.5	145.8	142.1
	1956: March	118.2	114.5	121.5	110.9	81.5	138.9	138.8	140.5

15. Coal Supply & Demand

(1,000 metric tons)

Year & Month	Carry-overs	Coal Output	Losses	Supply Total	Demand			Month-end Stocks			
					Delivery	Others	Total	At Collieries	At Port	On Market	Total
1956: October	1,900.3	4,262.0	(+) 7.8	6,170.1	4,354.9	(−) 113.6	4,241.3	517.4	505.3	900.1	1,928.8
November	1,928.8	4,289.1	(+) 7.8	6,225.7	4,474.4	(−) 123.2	4,351.2	536.0	507.0	831.5	1,874.5
December	1,874.5	4,296.7	(+) 8.4	6,179.6	4,645.1	(−) 82.6	4,562.5	539.5	477.6	600.0	1,617.1
1956: Apr.–Dec.	1,166.0	35,954.4	(+) 82.2	37,202.6	36,440.5	(−) 855.0	35,585.5	539.5	477.6	600.0	1,617.1
1955: Apr.–Dec.	2,892.8	31,915.1	(+) 67.1	34,875.0	32,672.1	(−) 309.1	32,363.0	617.8	857.4	1,036.8	2,512.0

16. Electric Energy Consumption (1,000 KWH)

Supplied by Power Companies (Over 500 kw) 1956					Industries	Self-generated 1955				
September	October	November*	December*	January*		July	August	September	October	November
239,689	247,961	242.9	252.0	240.1	Mining	48,764	42,548	47,754	50,895	51,724
34,835	33,971	32.1	32.2	29.1	Foodstuffs	776	523	606	1,545	2,197
175,743	187,648	186.7	196.2	176.4	Spinning	1,005	942	1,046	1,379	1,334
213,593	224,440	218.5	221.2	204.7	Paper & Pulp	63,449	67,339	65,172	69,924	71,162
772,152	788,970	734.1	639.4	587.8	Chemicals	246,129	217,639	228,697	241,572	218,178
12,817	14,391	14.8	14.6	12.7	Oil & Coal Products	2,234	2,672	2,574	3,028	2,352
20,157	21,508	21.2	21.1	20.4	Rubber Goods	—	—	—	—	—
63,935	68,493	68.4	71.6	66.8	Glass & Ceramics	109,099	111,665	111,301	99,800	102,856
566,878	581,291	577.3	544.1	498.5	Primary Metals	247,798	231,177	231,755	236,540	242,166
7,396	7,351	7.6	8.0	7.4	Metal Products	—	—	—	—	—
36,678	38,477	37.9	41.1	37.0	Machinery	140	483	221	527	604
57,593	60,300	56.5	53.7	50.5	Electric Machinery & Tools	—	—	—	—	—
73,615	76,785	78.9	81.8	75.5	Transportation Machinery & Tools	—	—	—	—	—
11,552	12,063	11.5	8.2	11.8	Other Manufacturing	—	—	—	—	—
2,046,944	2,115,688	2,045.6	1,937.2	1,778.2	Manufacturing Total	670,630	632,440	641,372	654,315	640,849
262,911	278,918	281.6	309.9	308.9	Public Utilities	202	211	205	210	168
105,374	101,849	105.0	109.4	106.5	Others	—	—	—	—	—
2,654,918	2,744,416	2,675.1	2,608.5	2,433.7	Total	719,737	675,318	689,331	705,420	692,759

17. Supply & Demand of Raw Silk

(In bales=123 lbs.)

Year & Month	Raw Silk						Silk Fabrics	
	Production	Exports	Domestic Deliveries	Stocks at Month-end	U.S. Consumption		Production	Exports
					Consumption	Stocks at Month-end		
1956: July	31,620	5,818	22,468	17,366	4,466	9,181	16,011	4,027
August	29,969	7,987	21,212	17,746	4,976	8,661	15,438	3,740
September	30,339	7,190	22,707	17,998	4,762	8,602	16,295	4,335
October	30,000	6,756	22,071	19,171	6,189	8,225	17,325	4,963
November	28,387	7,078	22,424	18,056	5,600	7,850	17,885	4,831
December	28,409	7,508	22,249	16,708	4,112	8,866	18,503	7,063
1957: January	18,891	5,011	16,496	14,092	4,696	9,839	16,995	..
1957: January	18,891	5,011	16,496	—	4,696	—	16,995	46,026
1956: January	20,556	4,820	13,409	—	5,970	—	13,368	29,503

18. Supply & Demand of Paper and Pulp

Year & Month	Pulp (long ton)				Paper, Western Style (in 1,000 pounds)				Cardboard & Japanese Style Paper (in 1,000 pounds)			
	Production	For Paper	Deliveries	In Stock	Production	Deliveries	Self-Consumption	In Stock	Production	Deliveries	Self-Consumption	In Stock
1956: June	178,598	95,891	83,669	32,791	286,412	279,505	9,445	163,036	469,894	451,983	22,218	209,778
July	180,601	97,278	83,857	28,801	288,589	289,806	9,680	152,139	474,644	469,061	22,512	192,849
Aug.	185,420	99,171	85,904	29,146	296,560	295,761	9,467	143,470	480,872	472,723	21,594	179,403
Sept.	184,043	97,032	91,995	24,162	292,566	290,281	9,634	136,122	486,380	474,429	22,178	169,177
Oct.	194,374	104,686	89,080	24,770	311,805	302,956	10,701	134,270	516,072	497,693	23,656	163,899
Nov.	193,403	102,357	91,393	24,423	302,640	299,203	9,234	128,472	508,858	492,274	23,470	157,013
Dec.	196,853	102,988	92,616	25,672	303,650	302,347	10,111	119,664	514,396	501,439	23,307	146,662

19. Supply & Demand of Soda and Ammonium Sulphate

(In metric tons)

Year & Month	Ammonium Sulphate			Soda Ash			Caustic Soda		
	Production	Deliveries	In Stock	Production	Deliveries	In Stock	Production	Deliveries	In Stock
1956: July	200,429	161,473	165,643	29,836	29,202	6,187	56,524	47,851	9,884
August	182,244	200,051	138,836	30,486	27,052	7,979	56,262	47,620	11,006
September	192,580	159,754	163,680	31,325	30,579	7,365	56,352	49,023	10,924
October	200,932	181,530	175,240	32,603	31,931	6,571	59,738	51,477	11,267
November	196,687	133,408	227,912	34,327	32,584	6,665	58,993	50,473	11,614
December	198,843	159,845	261,451	35,352	34,930	5,443	59,262	51,321	11,022
1957: January	181,721	209,503	230,611	35,702	31,278	8,184	59,315	51,547	11,251
1956: January	179,355	179,327	129,916	29,781	26,877	4,039	47,144	38,622	9,323

Note: * in Table 20 are in million KWH.

Sources: 15. MITI 16. Public Utilities Bureau. 17. Central Raw Silk Association. 18. MITI. 19. MITI, ▲ Revised at source.

20. Supply & Demand of Pig-iron and Steel Materials

(In tons) (MITI)

Year & Month	Pig iron			Steel Matrials					
				Steel			Special Steel		
	Production	Deliveries	In Stock	Production	Deliveries	In Stock	Production	Deliveries	In Stock
1956: Total	5,987,204	1,255,785	87,196	8,185,694	6,275,263	297,624	494,765	373,749	23,433
1956: August	501,253	105,882	73,427	694,212	544,177	268,992	42,450	30,414	20,117
September	517,342	109,349	77,760	693,735	521,419	278,069	46,438	33,227	21,345
October	518,324	116,832	86,865	633,850	503,595	273,904	46,490	35,550	21,464
November	526,795	106,550	82,378	778,539	586,892	290,512	49,359	37,176	21,775
December	551,543	106,470	87,196	761,731	579,691	297,624	49,643	35,007	23,433
1955: December	467,253	97,953	88,819	620,741	505,451	281,393	31,113	23,223	24,463

21. Indices for Industrial Activities

(1934-36=100) (Economic Planning Board)

Year & Month	Industrial Activities			Mining	Manufacturing								
	All	Public Works	Mining-Manufacturing		All	Food-stuff	Textiles	Printing & Binding	Chemicals	Rubber & Leather	Wood & Wood Products	Ceramics	Metals	Machinery
	(153)	(2)	(151)	(10)	(141)	(12)	(12)	(1)	(37)	(10)	(2)	(7)	(18)	(42)
1956 average	227.4	294.8	219.1	129.7	231.3	218.3	100.0	134.8	367.9	215.4	210.2	214.4	265.9	396.9
1956: August	228.1	280.2	220.2	125.6	233.0	231.8	102.1	143.2	369.0	226.9	219.6	217.8	268.6	377.2
September	232.9	283.4	224.9	131.3	238.9	214.1	107.1	139.7	356.5	240.5	223.3	224.5	278.7	411.3
October	233.6	302.2	225.1	141.5	236.6	218.5	109.3	140.3	354.7	253.2	226.5	233.4	267.0	403.7
November	241.1	308.1	232.5	140.3	245.1	222.8	109.1	142.5	372.6	242.6	228.6	238.0	298.2	412.8
December	249.1	340.2	239.7	143.1	252.9	246.5	109.9	141.4	408.6	244.6	225.0	244.5	298.1	408.6
1957: January	▲226.9	▲335.2	▲217.7	▲123.8	▲229.4	▲204.8	▲ 97.1	▲143.8	▲358.4	▲235.0	▲215.8	▲224.6	▲294.3	▲365.3
February	232.4	309.3	223.8	135.8	226.0	203.6	108.7	140.5	355.6	249.1	215.8	237.8	298.1	377.3
1956: February	198.6	274.5	191.0	126.8	199.8	200.8	90.7	121.6	332.0	187.7	190.6	189.2	243.6	284.6

22. Department Store Sales (In million yen) (MITI)

	By Month	No. of Stores	Total	Clothing	Sundry Goods	Household Utensils	Provisions	Dining Room	Services	Outside Store Sales	Others	Gift Certificates
	1956: May	161	17,624	7,997	3,724	2,044	2,795	573	162	16	312	158
	June	161	18,107	8,741	3,605	2,245	2,595	531	137	18	234	190
	July	161	23,690	10,630	4,639	2,699	4,595	655	134	26	312	701
Total	August	163	17,816	6,691	3,813	2,027	4,104	702	139	24	272	444
	September	163	15,647	7,188	3,264	1,758	2,507	525	135	19	252	150
	October	166	20,876	10,675	3,846	2,356	2,947	587	193	21	252	184
	November	167	23,524	12,943	3,864	2,631	2,992	638	199	16	269	199
	December	168	52,571	27,156	8,734	5,213	9,873	792	249	29	525	1,530
	1957: January	171	17,226	7,752	3,650	1,866	3,006	593	146	18	194	210

23. Labor Population Survey (In 1,000)

Year & Month	Total (1) Population	Population 14 years old and over						Agriculture & Forestry		Non-Agricultural Industry	
		Total (2)	Labor Force				Not in Labor Force	Not at Work (3)	At Piece-Work (4)	Not at Work (3)	At Piece-Work (4)
			Total of the following three columns	Agriculture & Forestry	Non-Agricultural Industries	Totally Unemployed					
1954 Average	88,030	59,280	40,150	16,670	22,910	580	19,080	250	5,790	310	3,360
1955 ,,	89,110	60,920	41,800	17,150	23,970	680	19,010	240	6,360	330	3,790
1956 ,,	90,060	62,660	42,910	16,820	25,460	640	19,660	230	6,270	330	3,630
1956: August	90,200	62,810	43,380	17,700	25,110	570	19,360	230	7,360	440	3,830
September	90,300	62,920	43,140	17,340	25,240	560	19,710	200	6,330	300	3,290
October	90,300	63,030	44,380	18,570	25,300	510	18,600	130	5,230	280	3,270
November	90,400	63,130	43,740	17,040	26,170	530	19,330	160	5,800	240	3,380
December	▲ 90,400	63,210	42,330	14,450	27,330	560	20,780	270	6,930	290	4,060
1957: January	90,600	63,370	40,900	13,290	27,050	570	22,370	310	7,570	300	4,410
1956: January	89,600	62,650	39,530	13,560	25,290	680	22,430	270	7,140	330	4,140

24. JPA Procurement Payments (In $1,000)

Year & Month	Monthly			Cumulative total as from June 26, 1950		
	Total	U.S.'s Burden	Japan's Burden	Total	U.S.'s Burden	Japan's Burden
1954 Total	453,674	268,679	184,995	—	—	—
1955 Total	355,664	233,875	121,789	—	—	—
1956: October	33,894	23,894	10,000	2,571,579	1,983,295	578,284
November	▲ 28,311	▲ 23,311	5,000	▲ 2,599,890	▲ 2,006,606	588,284
December	28,113	23,113	5,000	2,628,003	2,029,719	598,284
1955: December	30,757	22,947	7,810	2,283,220	1,773,157	510,063

The following notes & source are for Table 23:

Notes: (1) Since August, 1950, total population is the estimated total population as of the 1st of next month.
(2) Including persons whose labor force status was unknown.
(3) Among the persons holding jobs but not at work during the survey week, the following are defined as not at work: self-employed workers are not at work provided that their employees or unpaid family workers are engaged in their business during the survey week; employees are not at work provided that either they received or are expected to receive payment.
(4) Those whose working hours total only 1~34 hours in a week.

Source: Bureau of Statistics, Office of the Prime Minister.

25. JPA Procurement Contracts

(In $1,000)

Year & Month	Contracts (Weekly total)			Cumulative total as from June 26, 1950		
	Total	Merchandise	Services	Total	Merchandise	Services
1952 Average	20,335	13,830	6,505	—	—	—
1953 ,,	27,359	17,523	9,836	—	—	—
1954 ,,	19,761	9,975	9,786	—	—	—
1955 ,,	14,815	5,566	9,249	—	—	—
1956 ,,	13,874	5,772	8,102	—	—	—
1956: April	14,494	7,644	6,850	1,745,210	1,019,891	725,319
May	14,843	9,275	5,568	1,759,849	1,029,027	730,822
June	19,810	10,335	9,475	1,781,728	1,039,421	724,307
July	34,992	7,614	27,378	1,816,614	1,046,982	769,632
August	19,496	2,540	16,956	1,834,992	1,050,149	784,843
September	4,857	2,343	2,514	1,838,825	1,052,312	786,513
October	14,625	6,405	8,246	1,853,255	1,058,683	794,572
November	10,052	5,661	4,391	1,863,203	1,064,277	798,926
December	7,981	3,578	4,403	1,871,091	1,067,802	803,289
1957: January	16,776	8,610	8,166	1,887,867	1,076,412	811,455

26. Exports and Imports by Value and Indices

(1934–36=100 for indices)

Year & Month	Value (In $1,000)			Value (In million yen)		
	Exports	Imports	Balance	Exports	Imports	Balance
1955 Total	2,010,600	2,471,430	↔ 460,831	723,816	889,715	↔ 165,899
▲1956 Total	2,500,636	3,229,739	↔ 729,107	900,229	1,162,706	↔ 262,477
1956: October	233,810	304,772	↔ 70,962	84,171	109,719	↔ 25,546
November	216,061	281,994	↔ 65,933	77,782	101,518	↔ 23,736
December	271,772	318,539	↔ 46,767	97,838	114,674	↔ 16,836
1957: ▲ January	169,006	327,975	↔ 158,969	60,842	118,071	↔ 57,229
February	213,253	343,161	↔ 130,908	76,771	120,298	↔ 47,127
March	274,328	393,022	↔ 118,694	98,758	141,488	↔ 42,730
1956: March	223,862	253,275	↔ 29,413	80,590	91,179	↔ 10,589

27. Exports and Imports by Settlement Area

(In 1,000 dollars)

Year & Month	Exports				Imports			
	Total	Dollar	Sterling	Open Account	Total	Dollar	Sterling	Open Account
1955 Total	2,010,600	816,440	649,081	545,050	2,471,430	1,322,027	599,514	539,773
1956 Total	2,500,636	1,095,272	906,457	498,897	3,229,647	1,725,151	1,057,476	447,020
1956: ▲ July	197,779	89,669	68,361	39,749	276,448	146,389	96,240	33,814
▲ August	215,805	96,655	76,336	42,818	289,389	145,459	104,332	39,588
▲ September	205,194	91,263	73,590	40,422	258,986	141,972	84,100	32,908
▲ October	233,811	106,427	84,402	42,982	304,773	177,896	91,028	35,845
▲ November	216,061	100,699	80,962	34,400	281,990	161,378	86,960	33,649
December	271,772	120,845	108,755	42,172	318,528	133,949	99,305	35,273
1955: December	249,180	99,681	81,714	67,785	233,344	129,714	63,121	40,509

28. Foreign Exchange Receipts and Payments by Month

(In 1,000 dollars)

Year & Month	Receipts			Payments			Balance
	Exports	Invisible	Total	Imports	Invisible	Total	
1952 Total	1,289,185	949,942	2,239,127	1,718,361	206,454	1,924,815	314,312
1953 Total	1,156,399	963,638	2,120,037	2,100,998	212,718	2,313,716	↔ 193,679
1954 Total	1,532,478	776,786	2,309,264	1,961,680	247,616	2,209,296	99,967
1955 Total	1,954,169	713,475	2,667,645	1,848,224	325,622	2,173,846	493,798
1956 Total	2,402,241	822,521	3,224,763	2,470,199	461,229	2,931,429	293,334
1956: September	187,968	68,839	256,807	207,026	30,908	237,945	18,862
October	215,857	73,504	289,362	221,399	42,648	264,048	25,314
November	197,863	71,958	269,821	234,695	34,593	269,289	532
December	205,820	80,370	286,190	231,868	42,213	274,081	12,108
1957: January	218,714	65,974	284,689	261,759	37,011	298,770	(↔) 14,082
February	212,506	64,160	276,667	278,260	61,618	339,879	(↔) 63,211
△March	227,000	73,000	300,000	303,000	51,000	354,000	(↔) 54,000
1956: March	192,327	64,405	256,733	173,529	32,957	206,487	50,246

Note: ▲ Revised at source. Imports & exports values are all re-checked at source. △ Previsional figures.

Source: Table 25, Economic Planning Board; Table 26, Finance Ministry for value and Economic Planning Board, for indices; Table 27, Ministry of Finance; Table 28, Foreign Exchange Control Dept., Bank of Japan.

29. Exports and Imports by Country

(In million yen)

Settlement Area	Countries	Exports				Imports			
		1954 Total	1955 Total	December 1956	January 1957	1954 Total	1955 Total	December 1956	January 1957
	Total Exports & Imports	586,562	723,816	97,854	60,842	863,785	889,715	114,674	118,071
	Asia Total	286,846	303,460	41,269	27,711	265,259	325,421	33,494	35,667
0	Korea	24,684	14,218	1,767	924	2,911	3,434	477	404
£	China	1,878	20,277	5,048	1,824	14,677	29,080	2,558	2,590
$	Ryukyu Islands	15,529	18,288	2,718	1,633	3,645	5,738	706	741
£	Hong Kong	27,815	31,702	4,319	4,252	1,426	2,221	933	845
0	Formosa	23,734	22,978	2,833	2,606	20,552	29,116	2,031	3,233
	Southeast Asia Total	161,444	203,270	24,689	18,899	165,301	189,834	18,731	20,051
0	Indo-China	4,654	13,245	1,710	1,622	5,233	1,982	756	674
0	Thailand	23,438	22,691	3,625	1,968	24,901	22,841	817	759
£	Malayan Union	3,360	4,852	614	281	20,326	33,416	3,440	2,605
£	Singapore	13,281	21,355	2,828	1,278	2,648	5,892	1,162	1,656
0	Philippines	11,229	18,651	2,323	1,623	24,166	32,023	3,808	3,525
£	British Borneo	179	377	41	35	6,986	7,707	1,232	961
0	Indonesia	43,097	23,297	2,347	1,908	21,682	29,219	3,031	3,347
£	Burma	16,413	13,786	1,576	2,114	22,713	16,477	277	453
£	India	15,788	30,503	3,633	3,314	18,562	27,823	2,899	3,045
£	Pakistan	20,160	15,839	555	202	13,028	16,951	1,471	2,073
£	Ceylon	6,226	7,353	1,157	302	950	989	136	108
$	Iran	8,446	8,072	1,063	481	7,722	7,920	488	775
£	Iraq	6,110	7,756	1,423	521	217	2,055	802	955
£	Aden	3,348	3,461	398	281	102	1,159	0	230
$	Saudi Arabia	999	2,372	216	271	39,916	35,169	4,110	4,134
£	Kuwait	1,682	2,265	318	193	3,887	5,914	1,119	1,533
0	Turkey	2,444	1,272	4	1	2,091	396	9	1
£	Jordan	562	637	95	4	50	356	81	—
$	Syria	1,355	2,502	161	17	222	1,425	53	29
$	Lebanon	458	434	58	25	146	37	5	0
	Europe Total	52,665	74,086	9,194	4,315	69,526	62,999	7,079	10,937
0	Sweden	3,031	4,815	821	410	3,268	1,712	135	302
$	Denmark	471	2,123	1,493	83	1,343	685	139	125
£	United Kingdom	18,405	21,876	1,613	559	13,358	13,650	2,453	3,066
0	Netherlands	7,855	9,627	922	426	4,227	4,129	331	486
$	Belgium & Luxemburg Economic Union	2,896	3,736	600	266	4,955	3,248	360	704
0	France	4,189	4,182	452	582	7,400	5,507	575	676
£	West Germany	6,514	9,058	1,571	1,077	15,880	16,648	2,141	4,304
$	East Germany	880	1,145	—	—	1,897	1,858	4	1
$	Switzerland	1,708	2,259	518	188	3,925	4,573	374	645
$	Spain	564	1,235	196	245	4,783	4,242	219	19
£	Italy	1,940	2,846	337	166	6,295	4,717	183	160
$	Norway	420	542	57	20	150	98	13	21
0	Finland	551	1,419	134	62	815	474	2	120
$	Austria	282	818	209	101	324	320	15	23
	North America Total	125,456	191,536	22,786	14,062	396,858	367,588	57,251	54,731
$	Canada	7,576	16,254	2,139	1,192	44,117	39,175	5,355	5,101
$	U.S.A.	99,655	161,722	19,379	11,758	304,899	278,021	45,790	45,104
$	Mexico	10,363	2,656	253	278	33,219	30,230	3,917	3,807
$	Cuba	1,092	1,747	148	50	8,739	9,906	1,406	685
$	Panama	554	2,166	154	72	909	323	3	8
$	Colombia	3,415	2,556	160	138	200	257	194	90
$	Ecuador	477	549	64	45	2,122	74	2	—
	South America Total	56,924	53,533	3,797	2,021	63,829	37,432	3,910	2,009
$	Peru	1,670	1,796	287	950	7,315	3,880	1,237	562
0	Brazil	28,155	12,032	1,981	362	26,580	21,340	1,133	509
0	Argentina	17,592	28,485	228	75	21,800	8,006	879	628
$	Chile	447	1,401	196	256	863	278	134	89
	Africa Total	49,857	74,009	19,444	11,827	18,462	22,664	2,722	1,853
0	Egypt	2,312	5,124	335	178	10,086	10,643	300	405
£	Nigeria & Gold Coast	15,305	22,034	2,224	992	111	62	22	2
$	Liberia	9,055	19,060	12,896	7,674	87	19	—	2
$	Belgian Congo	4,249	1,226	191	137	25	45	—	5
£	British East Africa	—	—	1,054	609	—	—	396	368
£	Union of South Africa	10,885	10,382	1,627	855	3,807	6,295	1,400	889
	Australia & Oceania Total	14,794	27,181	1,365	106	49,769	73,569	10,214	12,874
£	Australia	10,155	19,842	851	487	42,160	63,974	9,081	11,123
£	New Zealand	941	2,833	205	158	1,612	2,419	371	359
$	Hawaii	2,092	2,478	165	125	638	365	15	31
£	New Caledonia	105	230	29	1	1,217	2,483	645	683
0	French Oceania	74	74	3	2	1,425	1,513	—	203
$	Guam	405	210	40	39	727	712	15	196

Source: Finance Ministry.

Note: 0 denotes open account area; $, dollar area; £, sterling area.

30. Exports by Major Articles

(In million yen)

Articles	Unit	1955		1956			
		Aggregate		December		Total	
		Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value
Food	—	—	47,793	—	4,446	—	63,797
Fish & Shellfish	m.t.	155,108	27,226	13,099	2,920	196,489	43,427
Canned, Bottled Fish	,,	62,206	16,442	8,213	2,159	108,359	32,181
Cereals	—	—	1,287	—	93	—	970
Fresh & Frozen Fruit	m.t.	116,519	9,276	8,006	558	127,118	9,963
Sugar & Its Products	m.t.	34,039	1,434	789	60	13,769	789
Tea	1,000 lbs.	31,954	3,510	2,350	190	22,579	2,035
Beverage & Tobacco	—	—	1,214	—	90	—	959
Beer	kl.	6,339	507	—	48	—	664
Tobacco	—	—	471	—	42	—	295
Raw Materials	—	—	35,285	—	3,685	—	34,197
Lumber	cu.m.	442,008	10,438	43,581	781	—	10,273
Textile, Fibre	1,000 lbs.	69,061	20,821	7,621	2,472	68,821	19,876
Raw Silk	bales	86,712	18,005	1,180	1,824	9,957	15,046
Fertilizers & Mineral Products	—	—	252	—	33	—	192
Animal & Vegetable Materials	—	—	2,257	—	263	—	3,000
Coal & Petroleum	—	—	2,546	—	299	—	4,060
Animal & Vegetable Oils	—	—	6,381	—	676	—	8,913
Animal Oil	m.t.	—	5,448	—	527	—	7,813
Cod-liver Oil	,,	6,729	2,155	266	146	3,962	1,862
Vegetable Oil	,,	8,036	916	697	93	7,119	859
Chemicals, Drugs	—	—	33,751	—	3,555	—	38,403
Pharmaceuticals	—	—	2,997	—	399	—	3,765
Chemical Fertilizers	m.t.	762,875	15,010	98,994	1,590	919,490	17,923
Manufactured Products by Material	—	—	414,867	—	48,083	—	461,491
Rubber Goods	—	—	4,359	—	1,055	—	8,290
Tyres & Inner Tubes	m.t.	9,281	3,345	2,262	861	17,230	6,793
Wood & Cork Products	—	—	15,763	—	1,993	—	19,688
Paper & Related Products	m.t.	82,096	6,627	14,425	1,348	113,853	10,389
Textiles	—	—	210,588	—	28,862	—	249,585
Woollen Yarn	1,000 lbs.	7,877	6,263	915	635	7,276	4,918
Cotton Yarn	,,	26,226	8,756	2,363	802	27,294	9,448
Rayon Yarn	,,	18,046	3,231	6,870	1,243	58,135	10,362
Spun Rayon Yarn	,,	39,224	5,897	2,324	418	18,591	3,253
Cotton Fabrics	1,000 sq. yds.	1,138,829	82,757	142,043	10,844	1,262,049	95,989
Silk Fabrics	,,	30,022	5,622	26,071	2,009	253,334	14,340
Woollen Fabrics	,,	17,751	10,003	3,455	1,898	22,328	12,017
Artificial Fibre Fabrics	,,	895,631	55,686	130,893	9,052	1,165,827	79,867
Non-Metallic Minerals	—	—	30,625	—	3,890	—	41,241
Cement	m.t.	1,206,244	8,098	190,993	1,201	2,111,670	13,681
Glass Products	—	—	4,634	—	585	—	5,692
Chinaware	—	—	15,106	—	1,762	—	17,818
Precious Metals & Gems	—	—	7,846	—	885	—	9,724
Cultured Pearls	kg.	18,223	3,633	2,526	439	24,581	4,842
Base Metals & Products	—	—	117,096	—	7,516	—	98,497
Iron & Steel	m.t.	1,988,521	93,418	76,201	6,211	1,290,540	80,420
Steel Bars & Shapes	,,	356,875	11,401	3,842	537	72,094	6,904
Steel Plates (ungalvanized)	,,	344,719	16,801	4,586	205	239,337	8,903
Copper	,,	41,184	13,257	256	106	8,266	3,574
Nickel	,,	2,213	2,261	266	504	3,413	4,485
Aluminium	,,	24,883	5,033	278	88	10,221	2,687
Metal Products	—	—	21,845	—	2,512	—	23,872
Machinery & Transportation Equipment	—	—	88,835	—	24,255	—	174,095
Machinery (excl. electric machines)	—	—	34,848	—	4,526	—	41,945
Metal Processing Machines	—	—	1,134	—	122	—	981
Textile Machines & Parts	—	—	9,562	—	1,622	—	13,203
Sewing Machines & Parts	—	—	13,938	—	1,332	—	14,231
Electric Machines	—	—	11,123	—	2,289	—	18,293
Gen. Motors, Trans. & Alternators	unit	—	2,188	—	251	—	2,327
Electric Bulbs	1,000 pcs.	194,791	1,601	14,212	170	—	2,079
Transportation Equipment	—	—	42,864	—	17,442	—	113,857
Railway Rolling Stock	—	—	7,814	—	1,061	—	10,307
Automobiles	—	—	3,736	—	—	..	..
Bicycles & Parts	m.t.	—	3,056	—	399	—	3,401
Ships	unit	348	28,147	53	15,278	786	93,590
Miscellaneous	—	—	90,295	—	12,489	—	111,221
Camera	—	234,471	1,680	44,366	375	395,857	3,041
Toys	m.t.	47,352	15,294	5,703	1,878	61,001	19,951
Livestock, Pets etc.	—	—	299	—	25	—	147
Re-export Goods	—	—	2,551	—	235	—	2,946
Total Exports	—	—	723,816	—	97,838	—	900,229

Note: Figures of group total include others than represented. Figures for value are rounded under one thousand.
Source: Customs Division, Tax Bureau, Ministry of Finance.

31. Imports by Major Articles

(In million yen)

Articles	Unit	1955 Aggregate Volume	1955 Aggregate Value	1956 December Volume	1956 December Value	1956 Total Volume	1956 Total Value
Food	—	—	220,038	—	16,432	—	197,571
Cereals (rice, wheat & barley, etc.)	m.t.	—	158,437	464,491	10,262	4,399,730	132,914
Fruit & Vegetables	,,	149,625	7,191	17,912	923	96,575	5,685
Sugar	,,	1,243,131	43,692	101,521	3,566	1,363,730	48,220
Coffee	1000. lbs.	9,058	2,044	911	218	1,125	2,412
Beverage & Tobacco	—	—	4,955	—	53	—	3,417
Spirits	l.	—	274	—	46	—	365
Raw Materials	—	—	441,281	—	61,572	—	615,744
Hides & Skins	m.t.	61,763	8,055	7,419	1,082	76,429	10,995
Cow Hide	,,	47,041	5,214	5,482	645	56,770	6,748
Box Calf	,,	8,000	2,008	1,079	323	9,284	2,782
Oil Seeds	,,	1,135,105	52,928	116,557	5,180	1,039,531	48,162
Peanuts	,,	14,554	1,238	—	—	..	..
Copra	,,	50,736	3,829	1,813	134	40,417	3,047
Soy-beans	,,	808,177	35,368	85,883	3,504	717,081	30,473
Rubber	,,	109,057	26,905	14,374	3,305	139,054	31,883
Crude Rubber	,,	87,669	23,852	11,202	2,739	106,881	26,457
Latex	,,	7,160	1,522	1,253	253	10,077	2,017
Synthetic Rubber	,,	5,199	1,374	1,048	280	10,764	3,100
Lumber & Cork	c.m.	—	22,909	—	1,124	—	11,295
Lumber	,,	2,051,859	22,243	—	—	..	..
Cork	m.t.	6,568	616	—	—	..	..
Pulp & Scrap Paper	—	—	6,849	—	—	..	..
Fibres & Textiles	1,000 lbs.	1,498,630	210,799	184,055	24,585	2,061,544	277,859
Silk (incl. cocoons)	1,000 lbs.	1,904	407	257	58	2,163	584
Wool	,,	214,191	63,376	28,039	9,144	324,204	93,119
Cotton	,,	972,061	130,318	126,262	14,496	1,496,116	172,940
Cotton Linter	,,	30,754	773	6,043	150	45,890	1,087
Waste Cotton	,,	87,211	6,920	8,421	675	125,043	9,338
Hard & Bast Fibres	,,	117,856	7,823	17,679	714	218,895	9,061
Jute	,,	69,843	2,604	6,322	202	77,286	2,536
Flax	,,	5,554	608	826	43	9,769	573
Sisal Hemp	,,	27,212	937	4,566	156	36,913	1,286
Manila Hemp	,,	71,196	3,324	4,747	249	69,503	3,513
Fertilizers & Non-metallic Minerals	m.t.	—	36,975	—	3,200	—	34,458
Fertilizers	,,	2,369,295	23,959	118,363	1,114	1,700,262	15,244
Salt	,,	2,025,019	7,775	260,432	1,269	2,303,880	10,783
Asbestos	,,	20,400	1,436	3,051	214	33,388	2,346
Magnesite	,,	53,486	923	7,371	137	93,615	1,673
Metals & Ores	m.t.	7,784,569	66,867	1,192,595	19,857	12,196,121	164,379
Iron Ore	,,	5,459,458	29,354	740,007	5,683	7,869,496	52,747
Scrap Iron	,,	1,286,959	22,951	299,818	8,921	2,583,542	66,027
Non-ferrous Metals	,,	1,021,375	12,063	144,460	3,055	1,679,421	27,820
Nickel	,,	44,196	2,150	57,903	645	655,142	6,135
Aluminium	,,	307,530	2,435	21,511	122	403,907	2,195
Manganese	—	343,312	1,513	13,654	216	—	2,902
Animal Materials	—	—	3,039	—	221	—	3,724
Vegetable Materials	—	—	5,948	—	343		
Coal & Petroleum	—	—	104,040	—	13,945	—	148,553
Coal	m.t.	2,861,923	20,237	257,969	3,279	3,821,168	32,622
Anthracite	,,	267,398	1,732	78,158	593	464,493	3,577
Bituminous (for coking)	,,	2,575,281	18,437	252,579	2,387	2,963,026	26,314
Petroleum	k.l.	12,114,718	81,863	1,342,699	10,252	15,130,332	112,824
Crude & Unrefined	,,	8,501,530	53,507	1,114,313	8,056	11,586,911	80,564
Gasoline	,,	348,347	4,620	6,130	38	152,782	2,652
Kerosene & Gas Oil	,,	222,681	2,225	113	1	106,761	1,113
Fuel Oil	,,	3,004,426	19,763	216,655	1,929	3,165	25,181
Lubricants (excl. grease)	,,	29,789	1,324	4,450	218	52,789	2,597
Petroleum Coke	m.t.	125,959	1,285	30,884	362	220,494	2,489
Animal & Vegetable Oils	—	—	13,118	—	748	—	12,115
Animal Fats & Oils	m.t.	117,680	9,173	5,784	452	105,957	8,046
Vegetable Oils	,,	37,536	3,695	1,943	277	34,023	3,732
Chemicals, Drugs	—	—	28,874	—	5,415	—	58,789
Manufactured Products by Material	—	—	21,052	—	10,117	—	56,040
Hides, Leathers & Furs	m.t.	—	964	—	137	—	1,343
Rubber Goods	—	—	230	—	66	—	499
Paper & Related Products	m.t.	1,456	229	76	24	1,308	314
Yarns & Fabrics	—	—	3,213	—	405	—	4,591
Base Metals	m.t.	—	1,337	130,770	8,583	597,073	42,481
Iron & Steel	,,	82,183	3,647	119,860	5,395	532,497	21,904
Other Base Metals	,,	5,823	4,391	10,910	3,188	64,576	20,577
Machinery & Transportation Equipment	—	—	47,665	—	5,135	—	58,021
Machinery (excl. electric machines)	—	—	33,258	—	3,538	—	31,799
Electric Machines	—	—	6,267	—	567	—	8,149
Transportation Equipment	—	—	8,140	—	1,029	—	11,073
Miscellaneous	—	—	7,895	—	1,175	—	11,517
Livestock, Pets etc.	—	—	124	—	15	—	123
Re-imports Goods	—	—	674	—	67	—	814
Total Imports	—	—	889,715	—	114,674	—	1,162,704

Note: Figures of group total include other items not represented above. Figures for value under one thousand are rounded.
Source: Customs Division, Tax Bureau, Ministry of Finance.

32. Production by Major Items

Items	In	1956 Total	1957 January	1957 February
Electricity. Coal. Cokes. Gas			▲	△
Electricity	mil. KWH	61,431	5,092	4,943
Coal	1,000 Tons	46,555	4,068	4,164
Cokes	,,	8,240,343	790,724	725,944
Gas	1,000 CM	2,191,922	316,731	308,226
Minerals				
Gold	KG.	7,490	758	572
Silver	Tons	191.1	15.4	16.1
Copper	,,	77,527	6,092	6,464
Lead	,,	29,597	2,570	2,554
Zinc	,,	122.6	10.5	10.1
Sulphuric Iron	1,000 tons	3,058.7	249.6	257.3
Iron	,,	1,051.9	80.4	82.0
Refined Sulphur	,,	247.3	21.7	20.7
Crude Oil	1,000 Kl.	350.0	30.0	27.1
Natural Gas	1,000 CM.	176,77.2	17,047	15,910
Non-ferrous Metals & Products				
Electric Gold	KG.	9,186	723	704
Electric Silver	Ton	253.9	22.1	21.0
Electric Copper	,,	126,151	11,344	11,430
Electric Lead	,,	46,262	4,499	4,407
Zinc	,,	83,205	5,984	5,795
Electric Tin	,,	1,180.5	132.7	82.9
Mercury	,,	287.0	22.5	23.3
Nickel	,,	5,663.5	704.3	657.2
Aluminum	,,	65,997	5,195	4,262
Rolled Aluminum	,,	62,518	5,027	5,010
Rolled Copper	,,	150,315	13,945	15,288
Wires & Cables	,,	114,066	10,938	11,300
Oil Products				
Gasoline	1,000 Kl.	3,035.5	289.0	294.3
Light Oil	,,	886.6	69.9	81.4
Heavy Oil	,,	5,982.5	504.0	482.2
Lubricants	,,	447.8	46.0	45.3
Iron & Steel Products				
Pig-iron	1,000 Tons	5,987.2	573.6	521.7
Steel	,,	11,106.4	1,050.6	1,004.6
Open Hearth Steel	,,	8,966.9	847.6	804.4
Converter Steel	,,	448.9	36.3	36.6
Electric Furnace Steel	,,	1,690.5	166.7	163.6
Ferro-alloys	Ton	276,415	12,607	10,948
Rolled iron materials	1,000 Tons	8,185.7	732.1	746.8
Iron Shapes (Medium size)	Ton	494,535	49,451	51,480
Iron Bars	,,	26,744	3,071	2,681
Iron Tubes Materials	,,	257,224	24,370	24,195
Iron wire	,,	572,391	44,032	41,678
Iron Sheets (Thick)	,,	1,922,090	193,858	196,738
Iron Sheets (Thin)	,,	704,132	52,567	53,578
Rolled Special Steel	1,000 Tons	494.8	51.6	54.4
Iron Tubes	Ton	509,081	42,083	43,119
Gas-welded steeltubes	,,	82,718	6,611	8,268
Forged Steel	,,	165,556	14,819	14,891
Cast Steel	,,	209,723	19,069	19,129
Tin-Plates	,,	244,700	22,534	23,006
Galvanized Sheets	1,000 Tons	590.2	40.1	42.3
Machinery & Machine Tools				
Steam Boilers	Ton	32,165	2,030	1,668
Steam Turbines	KW.	266,921	1,200	2,642
Water Turbines	,,	639,199	5,903	..
Gasoline Engines	HP.	223,129	29,788	30,195
Oil Burners	,,	464,959	36,838	37,440
Petroleum Engines	Ton	589,203	35,816	29,505
Machine Tools	,,	11,576	953	1,233
Drills	Tons	16,077	1,393	1,585
Transmitters	1,000 Pcs.	9,251	808	766
Cogs	,,	5,564	594	597
Thrashing Machines	Units	251,561	9,185	10,187
Hulling Machines	,,	65,928	3,204	3,481
Rice-cleaning Machines	,,	79,412	5,382	5,385
Air Compressors	Ton	7,244	789	640
Electric Fans	,,	8,181	577	580
Pumps	,,	26,805	2,037	2,050
Refrigerators	,,	16,490	879	810
Conveyers	,,	22,653	2,199	1,914
Cranes	,,	21,708	1,844	1,947
Winches	,,	6,301	919	749
Elevators	,,	8,575	679	470
R. Staple Weaving Machines	Units	21,920	1,859	1,838
Cotton Weaving Machines	,,	23,189	2,678	2,764
Wool Weaving Machines	,,	2,728	256	247
Sewing Machines	,,	1,722,366	133,765	158,235
Lathes	Ton	6,667	525	473
Drilling Machines	,,	4,433	418	340
Millwork Power Generators	KVA	788,134	124,000	94,440

Items	In	1956 Total	1957 January	1957 February
			▲	△
Ordinary Motors	HP	1,248,925	89,936	109,802
Ordinary Transformers	KVA	2,517,073	258,609	309,984
Mercury Rectifiers	KW	142,975	2,932	11,012
Condensers (High Pressure)	KWA.	1,289,318		
Switchboards	Units	51,702	9,256	4,674
Circuit Breakers	,,	210,083	2,100	3,800
Electric Grinders	,,	23,740	75,220	95,460
Electric Fans	,,	797,290	11,592	13,450
Electric Bulbs	1,000 Pcs.	161,503	6,492	6,756
Special Electric Bulbs	,,	70,691	147,782	153,142
Watt-hour Meters	Units	1,940,917	3,153	4,131
Electric Meters	,,	53,650	2,198,914	1,305,610
Storage Batteries	Kg.	12,748,534	492	575
X-Ray Equipments	Sets	9,726	72,048	66,340
Telephones	,,	676,045	591	550
Telephone Switchboards	,,	5,485	31,153	30,610
Automatic Tel. Switchboards	Circuits	252,264	261,944	296,135
Radios	Set.	2,981,175	37,704	41,932
Televisions	,,	312,098	4,474	4,594
Electric Tubes for Receiving	1,000 Pcs.	45,151	12,221	19,227
Elect. Tubes for Transmis.	1,000 Pcs.	143,019	2,907	3,237
Truck Chassises	Units	27,866	650	787
Bus Chassises	,,	6,052	5,372	5,910
Small Four-wheeler Chassises	,,	67,201	9,426	9,881
Small Three-wheeler Chassises	,,	105,513	14,590	16,700
Two-wheelers	,,	105,276	126,215	118,130
Bicycles	,,	1,397,340	49	52
Industrial Locomotives	,,	445	26,659	30,862
Binoculars	Pairs	410,238	102,432	107,325
Cameras	Pcs.	1,265,506	574,263	616,533
Watches	,,	6,892,051	105,612	114,895
Forged iron	Ton	1,241,523		
Textiles & Yarns				
Cotton Yarn	1,000 lb.	1,087,021	88,143	100,062
Silk Yarn	,,	4,573	302	370
Rayon Staple Yarn	,,	227,395	21,177	20,761
Rayon Filament Yarn	,,	514,644	45,747	40,153
Synthetic Chemical Textiles	,,	53,006	5,850	6,213
Woollen Yarn	,,	232,260	18,553	21,512
Bast Fibre Yarn	,,	101,392	7,671	8,265
Staple Fibres	,,	689,924	67,389	64,738
Cotton Textiles	Mil. sq. y.	3,479.8	282.1	310.4
Silk Textiles	1,000 sq. y.	212,854	16,994	27,332
Spun Silk Textiles	,,	25,688	1,824	1,946
Rayon Textiles	,,	970,693	77,481	75,630
Rayon Staple Textiles	,,	1,112,251	98,641	108,376
Woolen Textiles	,,	220,384	19,288	21,193
Bast Fibre Textiles	,,	130,722	9,573	10,087
Chemicals				
Ammonium	1,000 Tons	879.6	75.9	73.5
Ammonium Sulphate	,,	3,694.9	327.8	306.7
Superphosphate of Lime	,,	2,058.8	169.5	174.8
Carbide	,,	756.0	25.9	26.2
Calcium Cyanamide	,,	507.9	25.3	22.7
Synthetic Chem. Fertilizers	,,	1,203.3	91.3	199.4
Caustic Soda	,,	645.3	59.3	56.8
Soda Ash	Ton	379.4	35.7	33.0
Synthetic Hydrochloric Acid	,,	267,421	22,841	21,166
Bleaching Powder	,,	31,713	1,634	1,469
Liquid Chroline	,,	93,165	8,792	8,355
Crude Bensol	,,	118,884	11,573	11,161
Refined Bensol	,,	56,651	4,992	4,783
Pure Toluol	,,	9,465	819	845
Industrial Explosives	,,	32,526	3,072	3,266
Paper & Pulp				
Pulp	Long Ton	2,167,139	187,748	188,518
Western Style Papers	1,000 lb.	3,429,872	293,609	293,279
Ceramics				
Firebricks	1,000 Tons	873.0	85.2	89.4
Chinawares	,,	438.1	35.4	38.4
Glass Products	,,	446.8	42.4	42.8
Red Bricks	Mil. pcs.	254.5	18.1	16.0
Sheet Glass	1,000 Boxes	7,724	774	703
Cement	1,000 Tons	13,024	1,019	1,159
Miscellaneous				
Automobile Tires	1,000 pcs.	3,150	322	345
Metal Toys	,,	307,736	21,716	23,017
Pencils	1,000 Gross	7,136	503	556
Needless	Mil. pcs.	301.4	178	247
Match	1,000 Match tons	432.8	33.5	38.0
Piano	Sets	14,130	1,429	1,429
Leathers	Ton	71,938	7,091	7,091

Source: Ministry of International Trade & Industry. Note: ▲ Revised at source. △ Provisional figures.

33. Spot Quotations on Tokyo Securities Exchange

Names of Shares	Authorized (Paid-up) Capital In million yen	Dividends	1957 March High	1957 March Low	1957 April 15
Mining		%	¥	¥	¥
Mitsubishi Metal Mining	2,730	18	112	105	108
Nihon Mining	5,670	18	89	83	85
Sumitomo Metal Mining	2,145	18	108	94	104
Mitsui Metal Mining	2,400	18	117	122	115
Mitsui Mining	3,000	—	226	□ 111	109
Mitsubishi Mining	2,700	12	129	119	118
Sumitomo Coal Mining	1,200	12	131	119	120
Furukawa Mining	2,100	12	118	106	108
Ube Industries	6,000	25	145	134	140
Teikoku Oil	2,000	12	104	81	123
Dowa Mining	1,500	25	144	130	143
Foodstuffs					
Nippon Suisan	3,500	15	100	93	95
Nippon Flour Mills	864	20	144	111	110
Nisshin Flour Milling	1,000	16	130	122	128
Dainippon Sugar Mfg.	720	25	157	146	160
Taito	300	45	328	312	308
Meiji Sugar Mfg.	500	30	166	154	157
Toyo Sugar	366	30	232	204	197
Japan Beet Sugar Mfg.	675	20	153	110	141
Morinaga Confectionery	750	20	172	161	168
Meiji Confectionery	840	27	161	130	145
Nippon Breweries	1,825	20	152	137	150
Asahi Breweries	1,825	20	170	150	162
Kirin Brewery	1,845	30	195	175	191
Takara Shuzo	3,927	20	126	112	109
Japan Distilling	1,155	20	106	□ 75	72
Honen Oil Mills	1,000	20	153	135	143
Nissin Oil Mills	750	25	120	110	114
Noda Soy Sauce	800	25	240	216	230
Ajinomoto	2,296	25	205	185	216
Nippon Cold Storage	2,000	16	115	100	119
Textiles					
Toyo Spinning	6,450	22	198	180	188
Kanegafuchi Spinning	3,738	18	123	113	119
Dai Nippon Spinning	5,250	18	117	109	115
Fuji Spinning	3,000	20	115	104	113
Nisshin Cotton Spinning	1,560	30	220	204	219
Kurashiki Spinning	2,600	20	123	117	124
Nitto Spinning	1,687	15	86	80	84
Ohmi Kenshi Spinning	2,000	15	74	69	72
Japan Wool Textile	2,560	20	140	127	129
Daito Woollen Spinning	1,500	18	102	96	93
Chuo Textile	500	10	67	60	61
Teikoku Rayon	4,800	20	159	145	148
Toyo Rayon	6,000	20	237	213	228
Toho Rayon	1,500	20	119	112	114
Mitsubishi Rayon	2,250	20	123	112	113
Kurashiki Rayon	3,000	15	150	135	141
Asahi Chemical	(B) 3,675	22	452	430	442
Paper & Pulp					
Kokoku Rayon	3,000	12	74	68	71
Sanyo Pulp	2,610	20	135	122	128
Nippon Pulp Ind.	1,600	20	134	121	124
Kokusaku Pulp	1,680	20	118	109	112
Tohoku Pulp	2,028	20	121	112	114
Oji Paper	1,600	25	256	240	257
Honshu Paper	2,000	8	116	104	111
Jujo Paper	1,120	30	296	278	295
Mitsubishi Paper Mills	1,080	15	100	92	105
Hokuetsu Paper Mills	900	10	76	67	75
Chemical Industries					
Toyo Koatsu Ind.	3,600	20	141	122	139
Nitto Chem. Ind.	2,382	8	128	□ 120	125
Showa Denko	4,400	15	159	140	164
Sumitomo Chemical	4,000	15	158	143	162
Shin Nippon Chisso Hiryo	2,400	15	104	92	115
Nissan Chemical Ind.	2,000	13	80	75	75
Nippon Soda	1,508	15	128	115	130
Toyo Soda	1,200	15	90	84	100
Toa Gosei Chemical Ind.	2,400	20	152	133	146
Electro-Chemical Ind.	2,244	20	156	□ 138	141
Shin-etsu Chemical Ind.	980	15	111	98	112
Mitsui Chemical Ind.	1,600	15	147	131	148
Kyowa Fermentation	1,399	18	137	120	140
Dainippon Celluloid	2,000	15	90	82	92
Nippon Chemical Ind.	800	10	109	96	108
Sankyo	780	25	154	140	148
Kansai Paint	600	10	124	118	120
Fuji Photo Film	2,500	20	148	132	143
Konishiroku Photo Ind.	1,800	20	92	85	87

Names of Shares	Authorized (Paid-up) Capital In million yen	Dividends	1957 March High	1957 March Low	1957 April 15
Coal & Petroleum		%	¥	¥	¥
Nippon Oil	4,500	15	109	98	97
Showa Oil	2,550	20	150	132	128
Maruzen Oil	2,625	20	202	177	183
Mitsubishi Oil	2,400	20	185	167	181
Toa Nenryo Kogyo	3,948	56	194	174	185
Mitsubishi Chemical Ind.	3,966	15	126	114	138
Rubber, Glass & Ceramics					
Yokohama Rubber	1,000	12	221	184	233
Asahi Glass	500	20	192	165	196
Nippon Sheet Glass	1,200	20	262	245	254
Nihon Cement	5,000	24	131	121	134
Iwaki Cement	1,000	40	327	309	338
Onoda Cement	6,400	16	101	97	100
Nippon Toki	520	25	203	183	199
Nippon Gaishi	500	23	229	195	225
Metal Industries					
Yawata Iron & Steel	15,000	12	83	76	75
Fuji Iron & Steel	13,000	12	80	73	73
Kawasaki Steel	6,100	5	78	72	73
Nippon Kokan	15,000	15	111	□ 81	77
Sumitomo Metal Ind.	5,000	12	105	96	94
Kobe Steel	7,968	12	97	□ 67	65
Tokyo Rope	485	10	202	179	210
Japan Light Metal	2,995	10	167	150	186
Toyo Seikan	(A) 400	20	2,000	1,730	2,030
Machinery					
Ebara Mfg.	600	20	189	166	212
Nippon Seiko	800	30	183	162	185
Toyo Bearing	600	20	200	173	195
Koyo Seiko	700	15	125	117	123
Electric Machinery					
Hitachi Ltd.	10,000	18	132	125	130
Tokyo Shibaura Electric	9,588	12	97	90	96
Mitsubishi Electric	5,400	15	120	113	119
Fuji Electric Mfg.	2,400	18	134	124	137
Furukawa Electric	3,000	12	125	113	119
Nippon Electric	2,000	15	125	119	132
Transportation Equipment					
Mitsubishi Shipbuilding & Engineering	5,600	12	110	101	106
Mitsubishi Nippon Heavy Ind.	3,000	10	100	91	98
Mitsui Shipbuilding & Engineering	2,240	16	115	108	108
Mitsubishi Heavy Ind. Reorg.	5,600	12	121	110	118
Ishikawajima Heavy Ind.	2,600	12	90	81	83
Nissan Motor	4,200	20	140	123	147
Isuzu Motor	3,000	16	118	106	116
Precision Machinery					
Nippon Kogaku	465	15	125	116	134
Canon Camera	400	25	230	218	245
Other Manufacturing Industries					
Toppan Printing	500	23	130	120	132
Nippon Musical Instrument	450	18	175	156	186
Trading Companies					
Mitsui Bussan	1,755	20	177	158	172
Mitsubishi Shoji	5,000	16	129	115	128
Mitsukoshi	2,480	26	240	220	242
Real Estate					
Mitsui Real Estate	420	20	420	382	403
Mitsubishi Estate	2,064	18	224	209	227
Heiwa Real Estate	1,323	10	346	324	338
Transportation & Shipping					
Tobu Railways	1,600	13	128	123	127
Tokyo El. Express Railway	3,000	15	118	113	115
Nippon Express	(B) 7,200	16	251	236	236
Nippon Yusen	11,400	—	67	60	62
Osaka Shosen	7,600	—	61	56	56
Nitto Steamship	6,000	8	89	□ 80	79
Mitsui Steamship	5,500	—	77	68	69
Iino Kaiun	13,200	8	91	□ 66	68
Mitsubishi Shipping	4,800	8	87	77	77
Warehouse & Entertainment					
Mitsubishi Warehouse	600	10	126	115	129
Shochiku Motion Picture	1,848	25	144	131	121
Nikkatsu	3,287	5	52	49	47

Notes: (A) 500 yen shares. (B) 100 yen shares, others 50 yen. □ ex-new.

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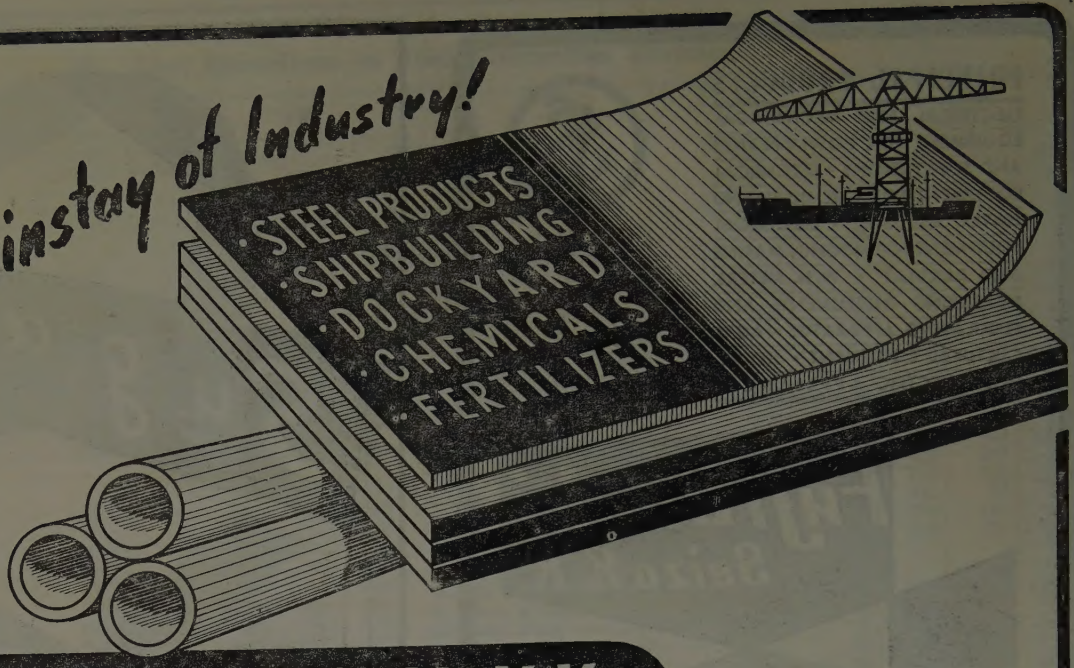

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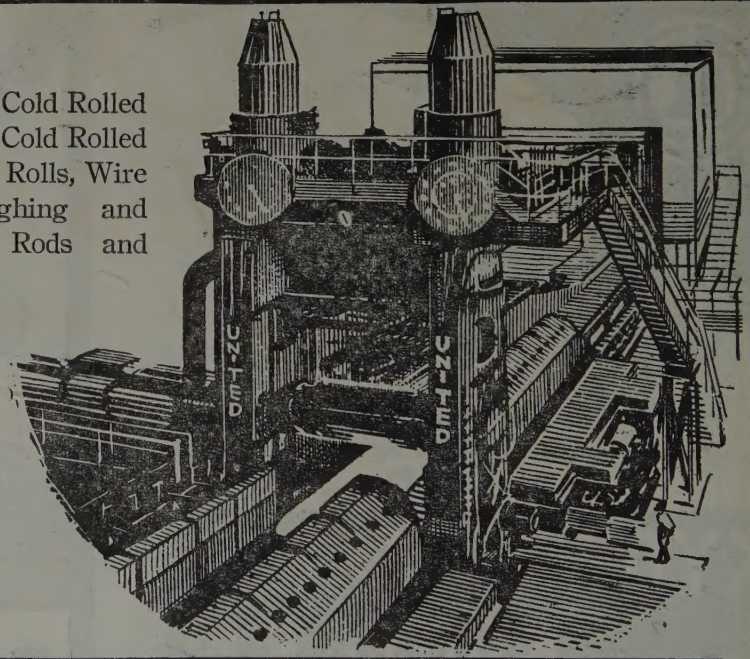

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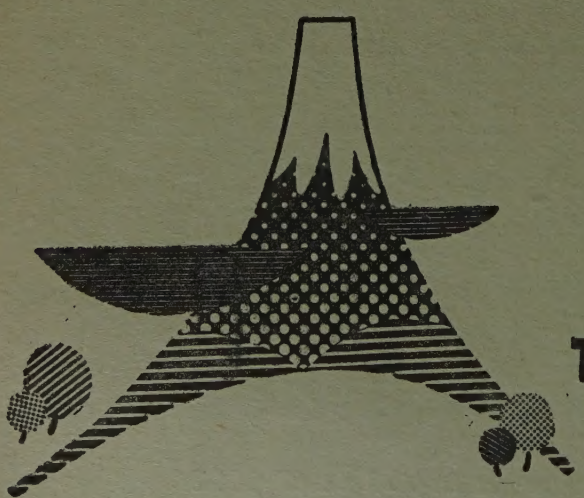

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